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*History of the American Medical Association.*

NUMBER IV.

BY ONE OF ITS MEMBERS.

THE doings of the second National Convention, held in May 1847, were noticed more or less in detail by the Medical Periodicals throughout the country. And with few exceptions, these notices were couched in terms of decided commendation. Several of the medical periodicals in this country were conducted by Professors in the Medical Colleges, and a majority of them regarded the action of the Convention in reference to extending the *College term to six months*, as unwise and impracticable, but otherwise warmly commended its doings and objects. Dr. Samuel Annan, one of the Professors in the Transylvania University, the oldest medical school in the West, carried his objections much farther, and reviewed the proceedings of the Convention at considerable length in the *Western Lancet*, and his views were at least partially endorsed by the Editor of that Journal. Dr. Annan contended that the Convention was not properly a *National* one, because some sections of the country were represented very imperfectly, and many of the Colleges not at all; and hence its recommendations, were not binding either on the profession or the Medical schools. He not only opposed the extension of the Lecture term in the Colleges to *six months*, as recommended by the Convention, but he opposed still more strenuously the resolutions adopted, setting forth a standard of preliminary education to be required before commencing the study of medicine.

Those resolutions were contained in the article published in the April number of this Journal. The standard requires simply, that the individual proposing to study medicine, shall have "*acquired a good En-*

lish education, a knowledge of Natural Philosophy and the elementary Mathematical Sciences, including Geometry and Algebra; and such an acquaintance at least with the Latin and Greek languages as will enable him to appreciate the technical language of medicine, and read and write prescriptions."

And yet Dr. Annan gravely and at considerable length, contended that these requirements were too high; that they impose unnecessary burdens on the student, and, if exacted, would deter many from studying the profession, who would otherwise enter it with profit to themselves, and benefit to the community. This effort of Dr. Annan, like the Address of Dr. Martyn Paine, previous to the first Convention, instead of diminishing the confidence of the profession in the doings and objects of those who assembled in Philadelphia, only served to call out able replies from several sources, both in the east and the west, and thereby direct the attention of a much larger number to the importance of the whole subject. Perhaps the most important of these replies was that of Dr. Sutton, of Georgetown, Kentucky, published in the *Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery*. He refuted all the special pleading of Prof. Annan, with sound arguments and happy illustrations. But while some of the resolutions adopted by the Philadelphia Convention were objected to by such Journals as were connected with the Medical Colleges, they were almost unanimously approved by the great mass of active practitioners, as represented in the several State and County or District Societies. Indeed, one of the earliest and most important results which followed the organization of a permanent National Association, was the organization of new Societies and Associations in states where none existed before, and the revival of many old Societies which had ceased to maintain an active existence.

During the period intervening between the sitting of the Convention in Philadelphia, and the next annual meeting in Baltimore, new State Medical Societies were organized in South Carolina, Alabama, and Pennsylvania; and the old ones were greatly invigorated in Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In all these and many others in the Middle and New England States, resolutions were adopted cordially sanctioning the action of the National Convention, particularly in reference to the subject of preliminary and medical education. The following resolutions adopted by the Medical Society of the State of Delaware, at its Annual meeting in December 1847, will afford a fair representation of the action of nearly all the State Medical Societies in the United States, in reference to the same subject.

"Resolved, That this Society regard the unanimity which characterized the proceedings of the National Medical Convention, at its annual meeting in May last, and the prospective field of action then unfolded, as sources of gratification, and as calculated to advance the best interests of the medical profession, and of the community at large, by elevating the standard of medical education and ethics, and by exciting a spirit of scientific investigation throughout the Union."

"Resolved, That this Society coincide in the recommendation of the Convention, as respects *preliminary* education, the requirement of the medical schools, and registration of births, marriages and deaths; and that its efforts shall be directed to the advancement of the objects therein contemplated."

But while the proceedings of the great National Medical Congress at Philadelphia, were thus explicitly ratified and sanctioned by the great body of American practitioners, as represented in the state and local Societies, it is evident that most of those directly connected with the medical schools, looked upon the whole movement with distrust, chiefly, however, on account of the proposed extension of the Lecture term to *six months*. That they felt strongly the moral force of the recommendation, was evident both from the comments of such Medical Journals as represented particular schools, and from attempts to partially comply with the requisition. Thus the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania promptly extended its Lecture term to *six months*, thereby complying with the recommendation in full; the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the oldest and most influential school in New York, extended its term to *five months*; while most of the remaining schools contented themselves with the addition of from two to four weeks of preliminary instruction, on which their classes might attend or not, as they chose.

Such seems to have been the immediate and obvious influence produced by the organization of the American Medical Association, and the two National Conventions that preceded it.

The first regular annual meeting of the Association commenced its session on the 2d day of May, 1848, in the city of Baltimore. At 11 o'clock A. M., the President, the venerable Dr. Nathaniel Chapman of Philadelphia, took the chair and opened the session with a very brief, but eloquent and appropriate address. In applying the word *appropriate*, to the remarks of Dr. Chapman, I do not wish to be understood as endorsing fully one of the prominent sentiments then uttered by him, and which reads as follows, viz: "The profession to which we belong,

once venerated on account of its antiquity—its varied and profound science—its elegant literature—its polite accomplishments—its virtues—has become corrupt, and degenerate to the forfeiture of its social position, and with it, of the homage it formerly received spontaneously and universally." It would be exceedingly gratifying to know *when* was that golden period in the history of medicine, characterized by *profound science and elegant literature*, coupled with the *polite accomplishments and exalted virtues* of its votaries.

It could not have been at a very ancient period, for with the exception of here and there a brilliant star in the medical firmament, we find in all the earlier centuries, instead of profound medical science, only a medical literature corrupted by an intermixture of all the mythological, alchemical, and superstitious dogmas of the times. Indeed, Dr. Chapman himself, in the same brief address, tells us that, "*with the present century the spirit of philosophy began* to be infused into it, (medicine) creative of *real and substantial improvements* in its theories and modes of practice, raising it from a low and conjectural art, to a place among the legitimate sciences." The present century commenced with the year 1800; and if with that began the first real infusion of the spirit of true philosophy into medical science and literature, resulting in their subsequent elevation to a "place among the legitimate sciences," then surely, we must search for the golden age alluded to, among the records of the last fifty years; that is, within a period covered by the professional career of Dr. Chapman himself. Now the idea that the profession, in any of its aspects, has become more corrupt and degenerate during that brief period, will appear simply ridiculous to all who are familiar with its history. I know it may be said that Dr. Chapman referred more particularly to its "*social position*," than to its progress in science. The time has been, doubtless, when a powdered wig, a golden headed cane, and a pompous display of the mythological jargon of past centuries, elicited from the superstitious multitude, an admiring deference and blind homage unknown at the present day. But was that a social position to be desired; or to be remembered with regret by enlightened minds of the nineteenth century? I think not. And I further think, that we shall search the records of the past in vain, to find a period when the profession possessed more profound science—more elegant literature—more varied accomplishments—or more exalted virtues,—than at the present time.

The idea that there has been during the last century, any period when the profession has become corrupt and degenerate, in any of its aspects,



whether scientific, literary, moral, or social, is delusive and untrue. False pretenders and quackery have abounded in every age, from that of Hippocrates to the present. But legitimate medicine has advanced with every step of progress in general science and philosophy. And during the last half century, especially, has every branch of the *healing art* become enriched and expanded by an accumulation of facts and the application of philosophical principles of research, beyond any other period that can be named. It is this very rapid advance in science and literature which has made ignorance in the profession more apparent, exposed more fully the tricks and arts of mere pretenders, and brought the whole profession more rigidly to the necessity of resting its claims to public confidence on its actual attainments. The real boundaries of medical science, the sum total of medical knowledge, has also immensely increased, as is easily demonstrated by comparing the text-books and medical literature of 1800 with those of 1850. And yet with all this increase of medical science and literature, including the applications of the microscope, organic chemistry, and physical means of diagnosis, the nominal term of medical pupillage has remained the same.

The medical schools attempt to teach the medical science of 1850, in the same number of weeks as they did that of 1800. Hence the real cause of that restlessness of the professional mind, and that demand for reform which resulted in the formation of the American Medical Association, was not corruption and degeneracy, nor a consciousness of social degradation; but it was the failure on the part of the profession at large, to exact of those proposing to enter its ranks, a general education, corresponding with the extent and intricacy of the medical field before them, and an equal failure of the medical schools to extend and systematize their courses of lectures in a ratio with the rapidly extending sciences which they professed to teach.

The whole number of delegates present at the meeting in Baltimore was 266, representing societies and medical institutions in twenty-one States and the District of Columbia. After a variety of motions and some ballottings, a Committee of one from each State represented in the Convention, was appointed to recommend suitable candidates for officers of the Association during the coming year. Dr. Chapman, in his opening address had expressly declined being a candidate for re-election, and urged upon the Association the propriety of adopting the principle of *rotation* in office. On the morning of the second day of the session, the nominating committee reported the following list of candidates, who were unanimously elected as the officers of the Association, viz:

## PRESIDENT,

DR. ALEXANDER H. STEVENS, of New York.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS,

DRS J. C. WARREN, of Mass. ; SAMUEL JACKSON, of Pennsylvania ;  
PAUL F. EVE, of Georgia ; W. M. AWL, of Ohio.

## SECRETARIES,

DRS. ALFRED STILLE, of Philadelphia ; H. Y. BOWDITCH, of Boston.

## TREASURER,

DR. ISAAC HAYS, of Philadelphia.

Dr. Stevens on being conducted to the chair, returned his thanks to the Association for the honor conferred, and added some very excellent remarks. The most important subjects which engrossed the attention of the Association during the session, were embodied in the reports of the Standing Committees appointed at the meeting in Philadelphia. The report on Medical Sciences was made by Dr. W. T. Wragg, of Charleston, S. C. ; that on Practical Medicine by Dr. Joseph M. Smith, of New York, to which was appended a very interesting paper on (Edematous Laryngitis, by Dr. Gurdon Buck, one of the Surgeons to the New York Hospital ; and that on Obstetrics, by Dr. Harvey Lindsay, of Washington, D. C. These several reports were well written, and contained a very full *resumé* of the recent improvements made in these important departments of medical science. The report on Surgery was made by Dr. George W. Norris, of Philadelphia, to which was appended three papers on anæsthetic agents in surgical practice, namely, one by Dr. Isaac Parrish of Philadelphia, one by Dr. Henry J. Bigelow of Boston, and one by Dr. R. D. Mussey, of Cincinnati. These last named papers led to a somewhat protracted and very interesting discussion, during which much valuable information in relation to the use of Ether, Chloroform, and Chloric Ether, was communicated, by Dr. J. C. Warren and others.

The report from the Standing Committee on Medical Literature was made by Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, of Boston ; and that on Medical Education, by Dr. A. H. Stevens, of New York. The latter report was accompanied by a series of resolutions, declaring it to be the duty of the Trustees of Hospitals to open their wards for the purposes of *clinical* instruction ; that every system of medical instruction should rest on the basis of practical demonstration and clinical teaching, and that Medical Colleges should gain access for their students to the wards of a well regulated hospital ; that no mere *political* considerations should influence the appointment of those who are to serve as Hospital Physicians and Sur-

geons; that the recommendations of the Convention of May 1847, in relation to preliminary education and the requisites for graduation, be re-affirmed by the Association; and some other items of less importance. These resolutions were discussed fully in Committee of the whole, and finally adopted with one or two amendments. The resolution in relation to preliminary education, &c., as adopted, is as follows, viz:

*"Resolved, That this Committee reiterate and strongly recommend to the Association a practical observance of the resolutions appended to the report of the Committee on preliminary Education, and on the requisites for graduation submitted to the Medical Convention which assembled in Philadelphia in May, 1847."*

The foregoing reports from Standing Committees, occupy 240 pages of the volume of Transactions, and are well worthy of the perusal of every member of the profession. The paper of Dr. Buck on Oedematous Laryngitis and the practicability of *scarifying* the glottis, was illustrated by several well executed colored plates, and is alone worth the cost of the whole volume.

The report of Dr. Holmes on Medical Literature criticises with severity, the proneness of American writers to content themselves with the position of *Editors* of Foreign works; and with still greater severity the character of some departments of our medical periodicals. But he closes his report without any more specific recommendations than the following, viz: "It is by indirect means rather than by direct contrivances that this desirable object, (the improvement of our medical literature,) is to be promoted; by elevating the standard of education; by the stern exclusion of unworthy articles from Medical Journals; by the substitution of original for parasitical authorship; and by introducing such a tone of general scholarship and scientific cultivation, that the finer class of intellects may be drawn towards the ranks of the medical profession."

During the session of the Association, a communication was received from the Medical Department of the National Institute in reference to the Sanitary condition of the United States, informing the Association that a Committee had been appointed on that important subject, and inviting its aid and co-operation.

This was responded to by the Association, and a Committee, consisting of twelve eminent members of the profession was appointed to report on the subject at the next annual meeting.

Dr. T. O. Edwards, then a member of Congress from Ohio, made a very interesting communication to the Association on the subject of the *adulteration* of imported drugs, and the necessity of a law of Congress,

requiring the inspection of drugs in all the principal sea-port towns. The communication of Dr. Edwards was received with attention, and published in the Transactions of the Association. A formal *memorial* for such a law as had been proposed, was drawn up and presented to Congress. A report occupying seventeen pages of the volume of Transactions, was made by the Chairman of the Committee on Indigenous Medical Botany, Dr. N. S. Davis, of New York. This report was chiefly occupied with the discussion of the medicinal properties of the *Rumex*, or Water Dock; the *Lycopus Virginicus*; the *Hammamelis Virginicus*; and the *Cimicifuga Racemosa*. It seems to have been the design of the Chairman of this Committee, to institute a thorough inquiry into the *real* medicinal properties of such native plants as had been reputed to possess valuable medicinal qualities, rather than the collection of mere Botanical Catalogues. And it is to be regretted that his design has not been fully carried out, for there is no subject that more imperiously demands a thorough investigation than this. This report was designed by its author, merely as the beginning of a work, that would require years to complete. It was accompanied by two papers embodying extensive Botanical Catalogues of Medicinal Plants, one from Dr. Stephen W. Williams, of Massachusetts, and the other from Dr. F. P. Porcher, of S. C. These were returned to the Committee with the request that their investigations should be continued another year. On motion of Dr. Corbin, of Virginia, delegates were appointed to visit and exchange friendly intercourse with the British and Provincial Medical and Surgical Associations. Drs. George B. Wood, Jacob Bigelow, and H. H. McGuire were appointed for that purpose. Various amendments to the constitution were proposed, but could not be acted upon until the next annual meeting of the Association.

The number of Standing Committees required by the Constitution was appointed, and the City of Boston selected as the place for the next annual meeting. With the exception of a few items of discord at the commencement of the session, the proceedings of this meeting were conducted throughout; with much harmony and good feeling. The session was continued three days, and evidently contributed much to increase the confidence of the profession in the permanency and value of the Association. It was evident that an active spirit of improvement had been aroused in every department of the profession.

It was manifest in the rapidly increasing social organization of the profession, to which I have already alluded. It was equally manifest in the zeal with which the several Committees appointed by the Associ-

ation, entered upon the literary labors imposed upon them; and still more by the disposition to communicate valuable private papers, like those of Drs. Buck, Du Boia, and Edwards, which were presented at the present session.

And as the first regular annual session of the Association closed, I think every member felt willing to unite heartily in the following sentiment which constituted the closing remark of Dr. Stevens on taking the presidential chair.

"Our Association stands forth without a parallel in its high purposes, and in its means of accomplishing them. May it prove an exemplar of similar organizations in our sister republics of the Western Hemisphere, and exhibit in a new form to our brethren in Europe, the easy adaptation of our institutions to the great end of promoting the happiness of mankind."

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*On a peculiar Acid, secreted in the Lungs.* By Dr. Verdeil, (*Comptes Rendus*.) Translated for the N. J. MEDICAL REPORTER, by CH. F. J. LEHLRACH, from the German (*Medicinische Neuigkeiten*; Erlangen: vol. ii. p. 160. Edited by Prof. Wintrich).

"VERDEIL has examined the lungs of many animals, and is most evidently convinced, that in the parenchyma of the lungs, a peculiar crystallizable acid is present, which forms crystalline compounds with bases. This acid is partly in a free state, but preponderates as a salt of soda. VERDEIL experimented in the following manner: He cut up the pulmonary tissue into excessively small slices, so as to render it almost of a pasty consistence. He then triturated the mass with cold distilled water, placed it in a linen sack and expressed the liquid. This manifested an acid re-action. The liquid was then heated in a sand bath, to separate the albumen by coagulation; then it was neutralized by baryta, and evaporated in the water-bath to about three-fourths of its former volume. Then a solution of sulphate of copper was added, which produced a thick and copious precipitate. The liquid having again been filtered, was found to contain sulphate of copper in excess. Dr. VERDEIL then added a small quantity of sulphuret of barium in solution, so as to produce an insoluble salt of sulphate of baryta and sulphate of copper. The supernatant liquor was again filtered and evaporated until crystals of sulphate of soda commenced to form. As soon as this took place a little diluted sulphuric acid was added, and the liquid treated with boiling rectified alcohol. By this process, the pulmonic acid is dissolved,

while the sulphate of soda remains behind insoluble. During the cooling of the alcohol, in the course of a few hours, needle-like crystals form around a centre, which can easily be seen adhering to the sides of the vessel.

This crystallized pulmonic acid is lustrous, has a considerable light-reflecting power, and loses no water of crystallization, if heated to 100 deg. R. It is easily dissolved in water, but insoluble in ether and alcohol, soluble, however, in boiling alcohol. The elementary analysis showed it to consist of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur. (An accurate chemical formula has not yet been obtained.) *This acid has the property to disengage carbonic acid from carbonates. It seems to play an important part in the animal economy, decomposing, as it seems, the carbonate of soda, carried in the blood to the lung, by combining with the soda, and in this way setting the carbonic acid free.*

That this acid is secreted in a free state by the lungs is proved by the fact, that all blood has an alkaline re-action. The pulmonic acid combining with the soda of the blood, does not change the chemical re-action of the latter, because it only takes the place of the expelled carbonic acid."

REMARKS BY THE TRANSLATOR.—It was formerly believed, that the carbonic acid, which we exhale, was formed in the lungs. The opinion prevailed, that the blood which is sent to the lungs through the arteria pulmonalis, carried carbon with it, and that the oxygen which we inspire entered in the lungs directly in combination with this carbon, so as to form carbonic acid in such a way, that the oxygen taken in by one inspiration would again be expelled in the form of carbonic acid gas with the next expiration. But this theory has been abandoned by all physiologists, since it is known, not only that the oxygen, taken in the lungs, is carried by the red corpuscles to every part of the body, but also, that carbonic acid is found to be ready formed in the venous blood.

Modern physiology also leaves no doubt as to the source of carbonic acid. It is formed in the capillaries. The only question which remained an open one is, in which state does the carbonic acid reach the lungs? Manifold experiments on the absorption of gases by different fluids, leave no trace of a doubt, that a part of the carbonic acid is absorbed in a free state by the venous blood. But taking into consideration the large amount of carbonic acid daily exhaled by the skin, it seems probable, that this free carbonic acid is removed through this channel. *The absorptive power of the blood, however, in reference to carbonic acid, is not by any means so high, that we could account in this way for the*



*whole mass of carbonic acid expelled from the lungs.* The theory, that carbonic acid reaches the lungs in combination with alkalis, so as to form carbonates, has not hitherto been accepted, on the ground that it could not be explained how the carbonic acid could be separated in the lungs from such a base, and set free. The discovery of a peculiar pulmonic acid by Dr. Verdeil, has removed all objections, formerly in the way of this theory.

If we take into consideration the objects of respiration, we find them to be twofold. The first object of the respiratory process is, to *carry oxygen into the system.* The oxygen is not mechanically absorbed by the blood, but in the lungs it enters into a chemical combination with the hematin of the red corpuscles. Iron forms an essential constituent of hematin. In chlorosis it is substantially iron, which is wanting in the formation of red corpuscles, and because we find in this disease an insufficient oxygenation of the blood, we are justified to conclude, *that the iron of the hematin unites chemically with the oxygen and sets it free in its course through the capillaries, wherever it is wanted for the processes of nutrition and re-absorption. In this manner we find iron to be the carrier of oxygen.*

The second object of respiration is to *remove the carbonic acid, which has been formed in the capillaries by the decomposition of disintegrated tissues.* Should there not be a carrier of carbonic acid for the process of decarbonization, as there is a carrier for that of oxygenation of the blood? Verdeil seems to have answered this question indirectly by accepting, *that carbonate of soda is decomposed in the lungs, by the peculiar pulmonic acid discovered by him.*

In a pathological point of view, this discovery must lead to important results. If the secretion of the pulmonic acid is disturbed, if it is secreted in an abnormally small quantity, so as to be insufficient to decompose the normal amount of carbonate of soda, the carbonic acid is necessarily accumulated in the organism, and in this way diseases may be caused, especially of the liver. The antagonism between this organ and the lungs, has long been observed, although the remote cause of this was not known.

Disturbances of the animal organism by an abnormally increased secretion of this acid, cannot be determined before we are acquainted with the proportions in which the elements forming the acid are combined.

If we accept soda to be the carrier of carbonic acid in the animal organism, we can easily explain why common salt must be so essential a constituent of our food, and why we take it in larger proportions even

than carbonates and phosphates of lime and magnesia, which enter to a larger extent into the constitution of our frame than salts of soda.

Whether in some disturbances of the process of respiration, chloride of sodium would not act analogous to iron in chlorosis, by supplying a necessary element of decarbonization, as the former supplies an element of oxydation, is a question which remains to be settled by practical experience in the sick chamber.\*

If further researches and experiments should either confirm or overthrow the remarks and suggestions made by the translator, he will return to the subject, if it has not been done by somebody else before him.

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*Chloride of Sodium in Intermittent Fever.*

BY EDWARD D. G. SMITH, M. D.

EVERY one who has treated Intermittent Fever to any extent, has been annoyed by the obstinacy with which it sometimes resists all measures which are brought to bear upon it; and will be prepared to welcome what appears to be a new remedy. For though Chloride of Sodium has long been used in medicine for various purposes,—emetic, alterative, astringent, anthelmintic, &c., its use as an anti-periodic, as far as I can discover from considerable search and enquiry, is of modern date. Eberle, Dewees, Watson, Wood and Gregory, in their several treatises upon Intermittent Fever do not mention it: neither is this property ascribed to it by Pereira or the U. S. Dispensatory. The merit of first proposing it in this complaint, according to an article in the NEW JERSEY MEDICAL REPORTER for December, 1851, is due to Dr. Piorry of Paris, who administers it in doses of two table spoonsful once or twice a day, and asserts that it arrests the paroxysms as promptly as quinine. Professor Herrick of Rush Medical College, also reports the result of several trials made with it, which go to corroborate the statements of Piorry. He prescribes it in doses of three or four drachms, twice daily in mucilage. After the fever is checked he gives it in smaller doses—ten grains with the same quantity of carbonate of iron two or three times daily, as a tonic and corrective of the secretions of the alimentary tube. From the high terms in which it was spoken of by these gentlemen, I resolved to administer it upon the first opportunity. I did so, and the result was so satisfactory, that I was induced to give it a more extensive trial. I have given it in many cases; in some of which quinine and ar-

\* Since this was written, the writer has learned that chloride of sodium has been used with great success in intermittent fever, by Dr. E. D. G. Smith, of Newark, N. J.

senic had failed; and its almost invariable success, I think, warrants the praises bestowed upon it, and entitles it to recognition among the articles generally considered as specifics in this complaint. In fact, I do not recollect a single instance in which it has failed, when it has been faithfully taken according to my directions. In those cases in which it has appeared to fail, I have found, upon strict enquiry, that the patient neglected to take it,—generally because of its nauseous taste; which unfortunately cannot be entirely hidden, and which is the principal objection to its use, especially for children. I think there is less tendency to the return of the disease at the expiration of the week, when cured by the chloride, than when quinine or arsenic is used. My friends, Drs. Eyrich and L. G. Thomas, who have both given it successfully in many cases, are of the same opinion.

I found the doses directed by Drs. Piorry and Herrick rather too large;—in most instances the stomach being unable to retain them. My method, therefore, has been to give it, during the interval of the fever, in doses of a *teaspoonful*—in weight from ʒjss to ʒij., in slippery elm or toast ten, every three hours for five or six times;—after thoroughly clearing out the alimentary canal by Calomel and Jalap or the Bileous Pills. Indeed, these doses have in many instances, caused vomiting at first; especially if there was much gastric derangement:—but tolerance was generally soon established, and the vomiting ceased after the first or second dose, having undoubtedly done much good by clearing out the stomach. In a few cases, however, the medicine continued to cause vomiting at every dose, and I was obliged to discontinue it and resort to quinine or arsenic in its stead.

As some patients would doubtless object to "Common Salt" in its natural state, it occurred to me that it would be well to disguise it; which I have been in the habit of doing by rubbing it up with Red Saunders, thus making it of a fine pink color, and then adding a few drops of oil of anise. This deception has been successful. I have frequently been amused by comments upon, and questions as to the cause of its "*saltish taste*." The information that the taste was the result of the manner in which the medicine was prepared, has always been satisfactory;—no suspicions as to its real character, having, as far as I am aware, been entertained after this explanation.

The first patient to whom I administered the chloride was an old Irish woman of about 60, who had been afflicted with a tertian fever for some two months, and *said* she had taken quinine nearly every day since she had been sick:—a statement which I received with some al-

lowance. She was in a very desponding frame of mind, and said she knew she was going to die, and all she wanted of the doctor was to give her a line to the priest, who refused to come to her spiritual aid without such a testimonial. I endeavored to encourage her, and induce her to make one more effort before abandoning herself to despair; assuring her that if I found she could not be cured, I would give her the desired epistle in time to secure her salvation before she died. After some persuasion she consented, and after the operation of a dose of bilious pills, which she took at bed-time, she commenced the next morning—it being her well day—with the chloride, in doses of a teaspoonful in toast tea, every three hours, with orders to soak her feet in hot water the next day, before the time when the paroxysm generally came on, and to remain warmly covered up in bed during the day. She complied faithfully with my directions, though as she afterwards informed me, rather to secure the line to the priest, which I had refused to give her otherwise, than from any great faith in the medicine. To her and my great delight, she had not another paroxysm; and I saw her again a month or two afterwards, when she told me she had not been sick a moment since she took the medicine, in praise of which she was eloquent. In fact, she had improved wonderfully in appearance and also in spirits: all of which improvement she ascribed to the chloride.

Her grand-daughter, a girl of 17 or 18, was afterwards attacked by the fever, also of the tertian type, and the old lady requested me to give her some of the same medicine. I accordingly left her a dose, to be preceded, as in the case of the grandmother, by three bilious pills over night. She took the pills (which operated thoroughly) and placed the powder under her pillow, where it remained when I visited her the next day, which was her well day. She and the old lady were both fully convinced that she was cured by having the medicine under her pillow, and I could not persuade her that it would be necessary to take it that day. But unfortunately for the reputation of the chloride as a worker of miracles, this marvellous cure did not prove to be permanent,—the fever returning at its regular time the next day. It however, eventually yielded to the internal exhibition of the remedy, in which the confidence of all parties, especially myself—remained undiminished by the first failure. In fact, in every case in which I have administered it, my confidence in its virtues has been increased: the only instances in which it was at all shaken, which only occurred in my earlier experiments, being those cases of apparent failure already mentioned. I think, therefore, that it is not claiming too much for it to rank it with quinine and

arsenic, the remedies most used in intermittent fever; and it possesses some advantages over either. It may be used more freely than either. It never causes the fulness of the head, and deafness which quinine sometimes does, especially when given in large doses:—or the gastric derangement, œdema, &c., which occasionally arise from the use of arsenic. It is certainly true that both of these are perfectly safe when properly used. The chloride has also the merit of *cheapness*, which is a recommendation, especially when the medicine, as so frequently happens, is to be given away.

As the chloride has so marked an influence over intermittent fever, it would be well to try its effects in the analogous disease, neuralgia, and I intend doing so when a fitting opportunity presents. My experience with it thus far in this complaint, is of rather a negative character. I gave it to a woman for whom I had frequently prescribed, for *tie-doloureux*, and told her if it did not cure her to come to me again, which she promised to do, and I think would have done if she had not been cured; as she was always troubling me before. I never saw her again. However, I will leave others to draw the inference.

NEWARK, April, 25, 1854.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

*Mercer County, N. J.*—The District Medical Society for the County of Mercer met on the 18th of April, in Trenton, at the Temperance Hall. Dr. Woolverton presided. This being the annual meeting, the officers elected for the ensuing year were—

<i>President,</i>	•	DR. PHILLIPS of Trenton.
<i>Vice President,</i>	•	" MCKELWAY,
<i>Secretary,</i>	•	" JOHNSTON,
<i>Treasurer,</i>	•	" QUICK,
<i>Reporter,</i>	•	" ROBBINS, of Hamilton.

Dr. Coleman produced a written communication to prove that miasma is the result of disease in living vegetables, and that it is not produced by the decomposition of dead vegetable matter. It stated that the destructive decomposition of dead organic forms, whether animal or vegetable, resulted in known compounds, which are not regarded as poisons. That the vital processes, changed by disease, frequently generate in animals the most destructive agents. Analogy, it was maintained, would warrant the conclusion; that vitiated vegetable functions may evolve those subtle and deleterious influences, which all experience teaches, arise from situations where living plants, by alternation of wet and dry, shade and sun, are suffering decay.

This paper gave rise to considerable discussion, in which most of the members took part.

The subject proposed for conversation at the next meeting, was "Disturbance of the nerve function." A discussion arose on the choice of subject. Some members thought the diseases of the season, (July), would be of more practical advantage.

Dysentery was named. This was objected to, as requiring too little investigation, presenting nothing new, being the subject of one third of the theses written for graduation, and a disease every where discussed. A subject that embraced more, that must be regarded in the investigation of every perverted function, and the neglect of which, is mainly the cause of the regular practitioners being over-reached by the different varieties of pretenders, was urged as more fitting the Society. Under these views it was adopted.

Dr. Woolverton was elected Essayist for the next meeting.

A resolution was passed, recommending the New Jersey Medical Society to hold a Special Meeting in May or June next. The Society considered the amount of unfinished business, and alterations in the medical laws of the State, made during the last session of the Legislature without the knowledge of the State Society, of sufficient importance to require a meeting.

*Somerset County, N. J.*—The District Medical Society of the County of Somerset, held its annual meeting at Somerville, April 27th, 1854. Dr. F. S. Schenck presided.

After the usual preliminary business, Dr. L. H. Mosher signed the Constitution, and was received as a Fellow of the Society.

Dr. J. W. Craig read an interesting report of an epidemic of erysipelas, occurring in the vicinity of Plainfield during last February. The disease assumed a malignant form, and proved fatal in five cases. The account was the more interesting to the Society as epidemic erysipelas is almost unknown among us.

Dr. F. F. Van Derveer read the history of a case of convulsions, accompanied with all the symptoms of the first and second stages of Hydrocephalus, which terminated favorably by an abundant discharge of pus from the nostrils.

After attending to the usual reports, &c., the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year.

President,	FERDINAND F. SCHENCK,
Vice President,	C. C. SUYDAM,
Corresponding Secretary,	J. W. CRAIG,
Recording Secretary,	H. F. VAN DERVEER,
Treasurer,	A. SKILLMAN.

Drs. Mosher, Martin, H. F. Van Derveer, and Grey, were chosen delegates to the State Society.

Published by order of the Society.

H. F. VAN DERVEER, Sec.

*Essex County, N. J.*—The District Medical Society for the County of Essex, met at the City Hotel, Newark. Dr. A. N. Dougherty, the President, delivered an address on the connection between Literature and Medicine in the 17th century. He reviewed briefly the progress of medicine, from the beginning of the art up to that time, and showed from quotations from their writings the influences which the theories of medicine, then in vogue, had upon Massinger, Shakespeare, Butler, and Moliere. The theories of Paracelus, "the prince of quacks," and founder of the chemical school, who pretended to be able to give immortality by the elixir vitae, but died at an early age a drunkard, so that it is supposed his elixir was some excellent kind of liquor,—and the opposite theory of Galen, the founder of the botanical school, were those which ruled the age. Many amusing quotations were given from the authors named, and the whole address was peculiarly unique and interesting.

Dr. E. D. G. Smith read an essay on the use of Chloride of Sodium in intermittent



fever. This practice has been recently recommended by a Parisian physician as a substitute for quinine and arsenic, and Dr. Smith concludes from his experience with it, that it can be used efficaciously. The French Government having offered a reward for a cheaper specific than quinine, Dr. Piorry experimented with this, and arrived at satisfactory conclusions. The essay, though brief, was regarded favorably, and elicited attentive consideration.

Dr. Eyrich read an essay on Digitalis and Tartrate of Potass.

Drs. Wells, Elliott and Elmer, were admitted as members of the Society.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected:

<i>President,</i>	Dr. L. A. SMITH,
<i>Vice President,</i>	" J. S. CHASE,
<i>Treasurer,</i>	" WILLIAM M. BROWN,
<i>Secretary,</i>	" WILLIAM T. MERCER,
<i>Librarian,</i>	" J. F. WARD.

*Delegates to State Society.*—Drs. E. D. G. Smith, Eyrich, Dougherty, and Elmer.

*Delegate to National Medical Association.*—Dr. George R. Chetwood.

*Reporter.*—Dr. William M. Whitehead.

*Essayists.*—Drs. Wells and William Pierson, Jr.

[Daily Advertiser.

*Warren County, N. J.*—The District Medical Society for the County of Warren held its annual meeting in Belvidere, on the 25th of April. The attendance was quite full, and the members of the faculty seemed to be in excellent spirits and to feel that the occasion was one of interest.

The following is a complete list of members:—William P. Clark, James C. Fitch, R. Byington, H. Hughes, William Cole, Dewitt C. Wilson, Lewis C. Cook, P. F. Brakeley, S. S. Clark, James D. Dewitt, G. H. Cline, John C. Johnson, William Kennedy, John S. Cook, P. F. Hulshizer.

The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year:—

<i>President,</i>	WILLIAM P. CLARK,
<i>Vice President,</i>	JAMES C. FITCH,
<i>Secretary,</i>	P. F. BRAKELEY,
<i>Treasurer,</i>	R. BYINGTON.

*Delegates to the Medical Society of New Jersey.*—S. S. Clark, John L. Cook, P. F. Hulshizer, William Kennedy.

*Delegates to the American Medical Association.*—P. F. Brakeley.

P. F. Hulshizer was appointed to deliver the Address at the next annual meeting.  
—Belvidere Intelligencer.

*Litchfield County, Connecticut.*—The annual meeting of the Litchfield County Medical Society, was held at the Mansion House, Litchfield, April 27th, 1864.

Samuel T. Salisbury, M. D., President. George Seymour, M. D., Secretary.

Minutes of proceedings of last meeting read and approved.

Drs. Beckwith and Bostwick appointed Committee to invite Clergymen to dine with the Society.

Drs. Henry M. Knight, William J. Burge, Gaylord B. Miller, J. H. T. Cooke and John W. Bidwell, were admitted members of the Society. William Knight was elected to attend the gratuitous course of Lectures at Yale College.

Eben H. Moore was recommended to the State Convention to fill any vacancy which may occur in other counties for the gratuitous course of Lectures.

Drs. William Welch, Ralph Deming, John W. Bidwell, J. W. Phelps, and A. H. Huxley, were elected Fellows to the State Convention.

Drs. William W. Welch, Samuel W. Gold, Josiah G. Beckwith, Samuel T. Salisbury, and James Welch, were elected Delegates to the National Medical Convention, to be holden in 1855, and Drs. A. H. Huxley, John Welch, George Seymour, William Woodruff and Manly Peters, were appointed Substitutes.

Drs. George Seymour, Benjamin Welch, Samuel T. Salisbury, D. E. Bostwick, and William W. Welch, were appointed a committee to prepare and report a tariff of fees.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year.

SYDNEY H. LYMAN, M. D., *President.*

WILLIAM W. WELCH, M. D., *Vice President.*

GEORGE SEYMOUR, M. D., *Clerk.*

The President on leaving the Chair delivered the annual address.

*Voted*, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Dr. Salisbury for his interesting address, and also for the able and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office.

*Voted*, That the Clerk prepare an abstract of the proceedings of this Convention, and publish it in the newspapers of the County.

Adjourned *sine die*.

[*Litchfield Enquirer.*]

## BIOGRAPHY.

### Biographical Sketch of Alexander H. Stevens, M. D., LL. D., Second President of the American Medical Association.

DR. STEVENS was born in the City of New York, September 4, 1789. His father, Ebenezer Stevens, was one of those who threw the Tea into Boston harbour. He entered the Army early, and served to the close of the war. Was at the battles of Saratoga and Yorktown, with the rank of Col. of Artillery. After the war Col. Stevens married a sister of Col. Ledyard, who fell at Groton. She was aunt to Ledyard, the traveller.

At the age of ten years, Alexander was sent to School at Plainfield, where he fitted for College, under the now venerable John Adams. At fourteen he entered Yale College, and graduated with credit in his eighteenth year. Having selected the profession to which he has since done so much honor, he entered the office of Dr. Edward Miller, and after attending one course of lectures in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and a second in the University of Pennsylvania, he graduated at the latter institution, on which occasion his Thesis "On the proximate cause of Inflammation," was highly lauded by Dr. Rush. In 1811, Dr. Stevens sailed for France, but was captured by an English cruiser, and sent to Plymouth. Thence he found his way to London, and attended the Lectures of Cooper and Abernethy. Next year he crossed the channel, and at Paris followed the cliniques of Boyer and

Larrey. War meanwhile broke out between the United States and England, and Dr. Stevens was again captured on his way to America and sent to Plymouth. Ultimately, he returned home in a cartel, and was appointed Surgeon in the Army. In 1814, he was chosen Professor of Surgery in the New York Medical Institution, and in 1818 elected Surgeon to the New York Hospital. Here he immediately began to give Clinical Lectures, which he continued with great success for twenty years. On the resignation of the Faculty of the College of Physicians in 1825, Dr. Stevens was appointed Professor of Surgery in that institution. Here, and at the New York Hospital he continued to teach Surgery with great acceptance till 1838, when, on account of ill health he resigned both places, having previously confined his practice to consultations and Surgical operations. The retirement of Dr. Stevens from the active duties of his profession was matter of great regret to his friends, and the officers of the two Institutions which he has so ably served, hastened to manifest their sense of the value of those services. He was appointed by the Regents, Emeritus Professor of Surgery, and by the Governor, Consulting Surgeon to the New York Hospital. His pupils also placed his portrait in the Governor's Room at the Hospital. In 1841, the Regents appointed Dr. Stevens President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, an office he still holds. In 1846 he was elected President of the New York State Medical Society, and his inaugural Address was ordered by both Houses of the Legislature, and by eminent members of the Bar, to be printed. About the same time he received from the Regents the degree of LL. D. In 1847, he was elected Vice President, and in 1848, President of the American Medical Association. He has been present at most of the subsequent meetings of the Association, always ready to exercise that large measure of influence which his character has secured, in advancing the profession in general and technical learning, in Ethics and in social position. In his own city, and among those brethren who have known him longest and most intimately, he holds a position and wields an influence which nothing but eminent ability could have attained, and nothing but strict integrity and inflexible adherence to honor and duty could retain. Dr. Stevens' publications have been few, and are scattered through the medical periodicals of the last twenty years. As a surgeon he seems not to have sought the reputation of an Operator, but rather to have cultivated a thorough knowledge of the nature and treatment of Surgical Diseases—*content to cure while others sought to cut.*

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

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SINCE our last issue the death of Dr. Patterson, who was connected directly with this part of our work, has caused a blank, which we feel it difficult to supply. We have on hand, however, a few works for notice, which must lie on the table another month, for want of space in our present number to do them justice. We will name them merely now, with our acknowledgments to the publishers.

**HAND BOOK OF CHEMISTRY, THEORETICAL PRACTICAL, AND TECHNICAL.** By F. A. ABEL, Professor of Chemistry, &c., &c., &c., and by C. L. BLOXAM, formerly first assistant to the Royal College of Chemistry, with a preface by Dr. Hofmann, and numerous illustrations in wood.

**WOMAN; HER DISEASES AND REMEDIES.** A series of Letters to his Class, by CHARLES D. MEIGS, M. D., Professor of Midwifery, &c., &c.

**THE SCIENCE AND ART OF SURGERY.** Being a Treatise on Surgical Injuries, Diseases, and Operations, by JOHN ERICHSEN, Professor of Surgery in University College, &c., &c. Edited by JOHN H. BRINTON, M. D. Illustrated with 311 engravings on wood.

The above are all from the house of Blanchard and Lea, Philadelphia.

**REMARKS ON SOME FOSSIL IMPRESSIONS IN THE SANDSTONE ROCKS OF CONNECTICUT RIVER.** By JOHN C. WARREN, M. D., &c., Boston: Ticknor & Fields. From the Author.

## EDITORIAL.

## AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS body held its eighth Annual meeting in St. Louis, May 2-4. A full, complete, and reliable report of its proceedings, prepared specially for the NEW JERSEY MEDICAL REPORTER, under the supervision of the Secretary of the Association, occupies a large portion of our present number.

Having neither time or space for extended comment on the proceedings in our present number, we must reserve what we may have to say to another occasion.

From the roll of members it will be seen that the gathering was large, particularly from the Western States. We are sorry that more of our Eastern brethren did not attend, as we feel sure they would have done, had they been fully aware of the facilities of travel, and the cheapness of the route. Free return tickets, it seems, were furnished to delegates on all the routes *except* the Hudson River Railroad.

A good deal of business was transacted, and many able reports presented, all of which were referred to the Committee of Publication, and will in due time be presented to us in a printed form.

A majority of the Committee of Publication this year, are residents of New York. We trust they will be prompt in attending to their duties, and that the Transactions will speedily be placed in the hands of members. It has been suggested to us that in former volumes of the Transactions the *minutes* have been incomplete. It seems to us important that they should be published *in full*.

The annual tax on members was reduced this year from five dollars to three. We hope members will bear in mind that this payment insures a copy of the Transactions, which, if not forwarded to them, can be had on application to the Treasurer.

Our St. Louis brethren taxed themselves very heavily, in providing an elegant entertainment for the members. We are happy to announce the prospect of retrenchment and reform in this matter of providing expensive dinners, as by a vote of the Association they were condemned. It would be desirable if *all intoxicating drinks* were *entirely banished* in all these re-unions of the profession.

The minutes will satisfy our readers, that whatever may be wanting, there is nevertheless vitality enough in the Association to hope for great things from it in the future. Let the good men and true in the profession take hold of this movement heart and soul, uninfluenced by selfish considerations, and it will go on and realize the most sanguine hopes of its projectors. A perusal of the able series of papers on the History of the Association, now in course of publication in this journal, will show how it has gone on step by step, until the little one has now become a thousand.

The Association meets next year in Philadelphia.

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#### A CAPITAL SUGGESTION.

A correspondent writes us as follows. "Would it not be a good idea to get some one convenient to the Records, to make out for the **REPORTER** a complete history of the Medical Society of New Jersey, with sketches of its presidents or other members, and a notice of all the District Societies, &c.? I have never seen anything but the meager (though interesting,) notice in the pamphlet containing the Laws of the State Society."

It would most certainly be a good idea; and we hope that this promulgation of it will be sufficient to induce some competent individual to undertake the task.

If the labor is not voluntarily assumed by some one before our next Annual Meeting, we hope that a competent committee will be appointed by the Society to take the subject in hand.

A very readable book might be made of the history of our State Medical Society. Such a history would include some of the celebrated names in our political history as a State. Who will volunteer to the work?

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#### DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

A correspondent from Bergen county informs us that a District Medical Society, was recently organized in that county. We congratulate our Bergen friends on the event, and hope a long career of usefulness is before them.

There remain three or four more counties in which Societies should be formed. What are Middlesex, Salem, and Cape May doing? The physicians of Atlantic, if not sufficiently numerous to form a Society, might unite with the Society of one of her neighboring counties.

Old Middlesex was for many years the center around which the whole



constellation of District Societies revolved. *She* should not remain indifferent to the work of progress which is going on all over the country.

Why, when quackery is organizing her forces all around us, will not the friends of legitimate medicine in these counties, unfurl their banner, and rally to it?

We hope speedily to be able to record the fact that, Societies have been organized in *every* county of New Jersey.

Our Secretaries of District Medical Societies are particularly requested to forward us abstracts of the minutes of their proceedings.

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THE LATE HENRY S. PATTERSON, M. D.

It becomes our duty to prepare a brief notice of our late associate, Dr. Patterson. His graphic pen has been cheerfully employed since the commencement of the current volume of the *REPORTER*, in enriching our Bibliographical Department, with reviews and notices, that have been sought, and no doubt appreciated, by a large number of readers; and it now devolves upon us to record his death, and in doing so, to testify to his worth as a man, and his learning as a Physician.

He was born in Philadelphia, on the 15th of August 1815, and in early childhood distinguished himself among his associates, for his activity in play, his industry in study, and his strong attachment to those whom he loved. His educational privileges were not so great as those enjoyed by some others of his day, but what he failed to possess through external advantages, was supplied by means of an overcoming zeal, and power of application, from within. Indeed, his life, to its close, was characterized by a deep, and strong in-dwelling principle, that seemed resolved to conquer difficulties, and supplant opposition. Call it ambition, if we may. Ambition then was the moving spring which impelled him onward. Call it native power, genius, or whatever else. It urged him upward, made him studious, thoughtful, original, and strong in purpose. In pursuit of his object, he was manly, generous, and kind, to those who might be engaged in the same struggle, and yet with his goodness and generosity of heart, there was a powerful will to succeed, and if possible to excel. In the Spring of 1839, he received the degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, his private instruction having been conducted in the office of our honored father, the late Dr. Joseph Parrish, of this city, who, in imparting the principles of medicine to his students, never failed to convey lessons of high-toned professional probity and strict morality, by precept, not only, but by an example, the in-

fluence of which is still felt in the profession, and is cherished by the living hundreds of his pupils, with affectionate remembrance. Patterson possessed it in copious measure. Retiring in disposition, amiable in temper, patient amid the toils and privations of professional life, he was scrupulous to avoid hurting the feelings or injuring the reputation of his professional associates, and yet keenly sensible of an attempt at arrogance, or assumption on the part of others. In the year 1843, he received the honorary degree of A. M., from Newark College, Delaware. His appointments, for a man of his years, and his scientific labors, were more than fall to the lot of most. Soon after graduation, he was chosen one of the House-Physicians of the Philadelphia Hospital, Blockley, where he remained two years, preparing himself by the experience thus afforded, for entering the arena of public professional life. In the midst of a great city, the young physician, surrounded by a host of competitors in the same pursuit, and by those of position, name, wisdom, popularity, and eminence, may well feel his heart to tremble with fearful agitation, as he looks into the unknown future, if not inspired as was he, with a deep consciousness of an up-rising genius, that swells his soul, and makes it strong with hope, and restless for victory. Not for a vain triumph over friends, or a conquest that would laugh at the calamity of enemies; but for a victory over adverse circumstances, and obstacles, however portentous they may be. With this determined spirit, the offspring of native genius; and a strong moral principle, the robe that covered it, did he begin his career of active life. May we not repeat the poet's words, and apply them here!—

"A noble mind, unconscious of a fault,  
No fortune's frown can bend, or smiles exalt;  
Like the firm rock that in mid-ocean, braves,  
The roar of whirlwind, and the dash of waves."

Leaving the office, the University, the Hospital, and engaging in practice, we find the subject of our notice, physician to the Philadelphia Dispensary. In 1843, Professor of Materia Medica in the Pennsylvania Medical College, performing during the first year of service, the additional duty of the Professor of Chemistry. In 1846, physician-in-chief to the Blockley Alms House, continuing at the same time his lectures at the College, and adopting while there, changes in the police of the Institution, which were particularly salutary to the insane, as well as advantageous to the general regulation of all departments. He retained his place in the Hospital two years, though he continued to hold his Professorship until the prostration of his physical powers by chronic dis-

case, compelled him to relinquish his post. Upon his resignation, the Faculty, by a unanimous vote, made him Emeritus Professor of *Materia Medica*, as a mark of their esteem, and confidence. In 1852, he visited Europe, but without much advantage to his health; though it afforded him an opportunity, which, to a mind like his, must have been grateful, of meeting with many distinguished persons, and of adding to his store of varied knowledge. In 1853, he spent the winter in Florida, but without improvement, and returned home to enjoy the solace of domestic affection for a season; to see his friends once more, still to pursue, on his bed of suffering, the impulses of his genius, undimmed by disease—untamed by pain; to scatter with his dying hand a few more trophies of a spirit unconquered, upon his pathway to the grave. While confined to his bed, he wrote the inimitable biography of the late Dr. Samuel George Merton, and two critical notices of the "Types of Mankind." One of these was published in the last number of this Journal. All his previous Bibliographical Notices for the *REPORTER*, were written in his chamber. We will view him at this point for a moment, where we now are—in his chamber. We saw him, wasted by disease, and yet firm in mental power. He spoke to us of his sufferings, as a victor speaks of conquered enemies: they may have been strong, but the mind had soared above them. His words were few, but they *spoke*. Some words sound only; his, uttered meaning. As he entered the stream that separates the noise of time, from the stillness of eternity, and felt its waters to chill his blood, and its cold waves to approach the centre of life, the spirit still seemed to hold its gaze upon an unending existence, and with a firm and steady, yet quiet advance, he passed away, and left these words of the Psalmist to answer the question—How did he die? "Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me." Thy rod for discipline, Thy staff for support; they both comfort me.

A word about his acquirements. In the profession of his choice Dr. P. was thoroughly versed. Its history was familiar to him; and in discussing the doctrines of those who have given to our profession its *caste*, in times ancient, and modern, in all countries, he seemed quite at ease both in social intercourse, and in the lecture room. His knowledge of the Latin and Greek languages enabled him to cull from the past, much that was embellished by his own rich style, in the various literary and scientific productions which have emanated from his study. The Hebrew he knew so familiarly as to be able to read with a critical eye, its translations, and to dwell upon the imagery of this virgin tongue with delight and profit. In the modern languages, he was quite a proficient.

The French, German, and Italian, he read and spoke with ease, and had so acquainted himself with the classical poetry of the latter, as to be always ready to render quotations off-hand, but without ostentatious effort at display. In Egyptian philology he found much to interest his taste for studying oriental symbolisms, and had his life been prolonged, he would probably have published his notes on the subject. In the practice of his profession he was gentle, kind, and skilful.

**HIS DISEASE.** When a prominent member of our profession passes from earth, it is expected that his disease should be known to his professional friends, and that the post-mortem revelations made by the scalpel, should be the common property of the profession. With a few exceptions, we believe this is usually the case, and we admire the devotion to science, manifested by domestic and personal associates who cheerfully allow the profession to use these means for advancing the common interests of our race. In presenting the following statement, we do not write from any examination into the disease of Dr. Patterson, made by ourself, but from information obtained from his physician, friend and colleague, Prof. Darrach, of this city. In April of last year, (1853,) Dr. Darrach made a critical examination of his case, and gave to his family, and friends the following diagnosis, which was repeated before the College Class, in an introductory lecture, delivered in October last, as a reason for Dr. P's resignation from the Faculty. He declares his retirement to be owing to "pleuritic and cordal sequelæ of rheumatismal influenza, which, however much it embarrasses the mechanism of the arterial circulation, and emaciates, and weakens, has not lessened the pulmonary function, nor in the least abated his emotions, passions, and intellect." Dr. P., was exposed during a stormy night in 1844, and "contracted an influenza which established a liability to attacks of neuralgic rheumatism." There followed upon this an "insidious, painless, chronic pleurisy, which plastered down the right lung; and subsequently, a similar persistent transmutation was made upon the valves of the heart, to embarrass their action." These sequelæ, according to Dr. D., "occasioned an atrophy of the right, and a vicarious enlargement of the left lung, which displaced the heart to the middle sternal region of the right side of the chest."

**THE AUTOPSY.** Thirty hours after death, the emaciated frame was exposed for dissection, and the following appearances are reported. (The cranium was not examined.) "*Thorax*—heart, moderately enlarged, displaced towards the right side, extending one and a half inches beyond the articulation of the right ribs, with the cartilages,—pericardium healthy, about two ounces of fluid in the cavity,—right cavities; auricle,

filled with a very dark colored heart clot; endocardium, normal; walls thinner than normal—ventricle, walls thinner than normal—tricuspid valves not affected—clot clinging to cordæ tendinæ—semilunar valves of pulmonary artery red, thicker than normal, and fleshy to feel—long clot in the pulmonary artery—left cavities; auricle empty—endocardium normal, except mitral valves, which were thickened with deposits; the deposits being in lumps or beads, along the edges, and causing the valves to curl upon themselves. Ventricles, nothing peculiar. Valves of aorta, red, thickened, and fleshy to feel; the redness of these valves, together with those of the pulmonary artery, could not be washed off by water, and they presented a strong contrast with the color of the rest of the lining membrane of their respective arteries. This condition was more morbid in the valves of the aorta than in those of the pulmonary artery.

*Lungs*—right, firmly bound down by adhesions; being almost one fourth the natural size. The lateral diameter greatly diminished: the vertical slightly. At the apex, the air vesicles were very much dilated, and few in number; the great portion of lining tissue being absorbed. No evidence or sign of tubercle. Lung did not crepitate, the lower portion being tough and carnified. It contained air sufficiently to float it in water. At the postero-inferior portion, was a patch of cardaceous membrane of about the sixth of an inch in thickness. Left lung adherent, but by no means as firmly as was the right; hypertrophied and crepitant throughout—much congested and oedematous. No evidence of tubercle in any part of the organ. The adhesions of both lungs were so firm, that much of the costal pleura was torn out in the attempt to liberate them. Bronchial tubes. Fine injection—fibrous appearance internally, with hypertrophy of follicles.

*April 28th, 1854."*

We have attempted thus to bestow upon the memory of one with whom we were associated as a co-worker, a humble tribute of esteem, by presenting a faint picture of his mind in its vigor, and nobility, during life; in its calmness in the hour of dissolution, and of the frail mortality as it yielded to the grasp of an unconquerable malady, with a pathological description drawn by his friend and physician.

We would have been glad to have accompanied this notice by a portrait of the deceased, but previous engagements will not permit our doing so now.

P.

## ABOUT OURSELVES.

**BE** THOSE who peruse the present number of the REPORTER, will perceive that it is a valuable one. The number and variety of the original communications,—the reports of Transactions of local medical societies, all having a general, as well as a local interest,—the Book notices, and Editorial,—the special and full report of the Transactions of the American Medical Association—and finally, the admirable and correct likeness of our distinguished countryman, A. H. Stevens, M. D., of New York, (engraved expressly for the REPORTER,) combine to make this a rare number.

We will say to our readers, that the expense of getting up such a number is *very great*, and notwithstanding the fact that our subscription list is encouragingly large, and still increasing, we need all the influence they can each bring to bear to increase the number of subscribers, and thus give us the means not only to carry out the plans we have already laid out, but to enable us to institute new ones, *which we will do as fast as our means will warrant*, to make our Journal useful and attractive. There is no other medical journal we believe, in the world that furnishes its readers with *steel engraved likenesses*, with biographical sketches of distinguished medical men.

We have already published four steel likenesses, besides one engraved on wood, and the July number will contain the portrait and a biographical notice of the venerable John C. Warren, M. D., of Boston, while several others are expected to appear before the close of the current volume.

Will not our readers who are not subscribers, encourage us by sending in their names, and will not our *old friends* labor a little for us?

To those who are in arrears, we would say that while we send out such numbers as this, we shall not be backward about sending them reminders of their indebtedness. They will find us an inveterate dunner—but do we not use the money well when we get it?

**BE** We have considerable matter on hand for the next number, among which are papers on *Cynanche Trachealis*, by William Johnson, M. D., and on *Placenta Prævia*, by O. H. Taylor, M. D.

Will not our correspondent in Montezuma, N. Y., communicate with us in regard to procuring fresh vaccine virus from the cow?



## AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING, HELD IN ST. LOUIS,  
MISSOURI, MAY 2d, 1854.

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Specially Reported for the New Jersey Medical Reporter,  
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In the morning at 11 o'clock the Association convened in Verandah Hall.

In the absence of the President, Dr. Jonathan Knight, of Connecticut, Dr. Usher Parsons of Rhode Island—the senior Vice-President—called the Convention to order, and announced that the Vice-Presidents and Ex-Presidents were entitled by courtesy to seats on the platform.

Dr. Edwin S. Lemoine, of St. Louis, took his seat as Secretary. The following letters from Dr. Knight, President, and Dr. Beadle, Senior Secretary, and also a communication from Dr. John G. Adams of Paris, were then read by the Secretary.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., April 25, 1854.

TO EDWIN S. LEMOINE, M. D., Secretary of the American Medical Association, St. Louis, Missouri.

DEAR SIR: As the time is near at hand for the assembling of the American Medical Association, it is proper for me to inform you, and through you, the members of the Association, that it will not be in my power to be present at the annual meeting. I have come to this conclusion after much reflection, with great reluctance. The meetings of the Association have always been periods of high gratification to me.

The acquaintance there formed, and the intercourse had with the members of the profession from every part of the country, have been among the most gratifying events of my life. I have looked forward to the annual meeting of this year, with the anticipation of unusual satisfaction. There was a portion of the country new to me, to be visited: there were members of the profession, probably in large numbers, few of whom were known to me, to become acquainted with, in addition to the ordinary attractions of the meeting, which made me strongly desirous for my own sake to be present.

At the same time, I feel the full weight of the obligation to attend the meeting this year, arising from the high honor which has been conferred upon me by the Association. Perhaps no one so little deserving, has received so many and so great favors from the medical profession, and I take this opportunity to renew my acknowledgments for these favors.

It is with no ordinary emotion that, although absent, I greet those of my professional brethren who will be present at St. Louis. I do this with the most cordial feelings, and with the strongest wishes for their welfare. Allow me, also, to express the confident hope that their wise deliberations will result in the promotion of the best interests of the profession, and advantage of the country, and to ask that the blessing of God may rest upon their labors.

With esteem and respect, your ob't servant,

J. KNIGHT.

NEW HAVEN, April 15th, 1854.

TO USHER PARSONS, M. D., Providence.

MY DEAR SIR: As the time is near at hand for the meeting of the American Medical Association at St. Louis, it is proper for me to inform you that I shall not probably be able to attend it. Matters of a purely personal nature will, I suppose, deprive me of that pleasure. As you are the Senior Vice-President of the Association, I trust you will be present and perform the duties which will devolve upon you. I give you this early notice that you may have time to prepare such an address as may be proper for the occasion. That you will do this as you do everything else, (in the best manner,) I have no doubt.

With esteem and respect, your obedient servant.

J. KNIGHT.

NEW YORK, April 22d, 1854.

To JONATHAN KNIGHT, M. D., President of the American Medical Association:

SIR: I find myself obliged to announce to you that business, not professional, peremptorily demands my presence in this city till a period subsequent to that fixed for the convening of the Association. This I most sincerely regret, not only because it will deprive me of much anticipated pleasure, but prevent me from discharging all the duties appertaining to the office I hold. Permit me, through you, to convey to the Association the assurance that I am deeply sensible of the honor conferred upon me by twice electing me one of its Secretaries, and that I shall ever rejoice in the increasing prosperity and extending aid and commanding influence to this great National organization.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. L. BEADLE.

MARSEILLES, March 19th, 1854.

Dr. E. L. BEADLE, Secretary of American Medical Association:

Please to state to the American Medical Association, at their meeting in St. Louis, that I have presented to the Imperial Academy of Medicine at Paris, the Sixth Volume of their Transactions; that it was received by their most distinguished body with much favor, and that it was referred to a committee for examination and Report (M. Velpeau, Chairman).

I have also promised M. Dubois, Perpetual Secretary of the Academy, to endeavor to procure for the Academy the five previous volumes, and I feel assured the Academy would take much pleasure in establishing a correspondence with our American Medical Association.

With great respect, yours truly,

JOHN G. ADAMS, *Permanent Member.*

The President said that the Association having assembled, were ready to hear from the Committee of Arrangements. Dr. James R. Washington, of St. Louis, Chairman of said Committee, now addressed the Convention in substance as follows:—

MR. President, it is my pleasing duty, in the name of the profession of St. Louis, to welcome our medical brethren of the Union to our young city. To say, gentlemen, that we are delighted to see you, would express very imperfectly the emotions we experience on this occasion. The recurrence of this anniversary is looked forward to by its friends throughout the country with anxiety and hope, and with none of the fears which the original advocates of this Association entertained for its successful operation. Their most sanguine hopes have been fully realized in the good already accomplished—but while so much remains to be done, it is natural that these meetings should be anticipated with great interest. We, of St. Louis, share this general feeling; but we have been expecting this, the seventh anniversary, with great solicitude. This city having been selected as the place for the meeting of the Association, we were desirous that in every respect it should pass off well, and be remarkable for the good done and the interest excited. We have felt all the nervous excitement which is experienced by a young lady making her debut in society. We knew we were asking a great deal when we invited the Association to appoint this meeting here—the older cities of the East having so much to make a visit to them desirable, while we have but little of interest to present. Had we been vain of display, then would it have been premature; but being desirous of manifesting our interest in medical advancement and reform, we were induced to offer St. Louis to the notice of the Association. We feel complimented that the invitation was accepted. We are truly happy at seeing you here, and right cordially do we welcome you—at the same time congratulating ourselves on the event of your being with us. On behalf of the Medical Society of St. Louis he cordially welcomed the gentlemen of the Association to the city, stating that the occasion was looked forward to with a great deal of interest. The fears which had previously existed in regard to the efficacy of the Association had now passed away, in the evidence of the good accomplished. We of St. Louis greet this seventh anniversary of the Medical Society with peculiar interest, and have hoped that it might be remarkable for the interest excited, and in the evidence of good done. We knew that it was asking a great deal of the Association to meet here, and consider ourselves complimented by the occasion. Our city has never served an apprenticeship as a town, but grew immediately out of a village and trading post. We, therefore, feel complimented by your presence, and have cause to congratulate ourselves that our invitation was accepted.

Dr. Parsons then arose, and spoke in substance as follows.

Gentlemen of the Committee of Arrangements, I thank you in the name of the Association, for the kind welcome which you have been pleased to extend us. We have looked forward with great interest to this occasion, and to the opportunity we now have of taking our brethrea of St. Louis by the hand, and in greeting you. Our road has been long, but we have been repaid by beautiful views, and a sight of your flourishing city. We are happy to take you by the hand, and greet you for the purpose of co-operating with you in the advancement of the objects of our Association.

The chair then announced that the business first in order, was to call the roll of Delegates.

Dr. March of Albany, New York, suggested that each gentleman as his name was called, should rise to his feet, at the same time answering to his name—which was approved.

The following list comprises the names of all the delegates and members reported at various stages of the proceedings.

### MAINE.

<i>Maine Medical Association,</i>	{ Joseph H. Eastbrook,
	{ Charles Millet.
<i>Lewiston Falls Med. Association,</i>	Sylvester Oakes.
<i>Portland Medico-Chir. Society,</i>	Sumner B. Chase.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

<i>State Medical Society,</i>	John O. French.
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### MASSACHUSETTS.

	{ John Green,
	{ A. A. Gould,
	{ John Flint,
<i>Massachusetts Medical Society,</i>	{ Ephraim Lovell,
	{ Benjamin F. Heywood,
	{ Alfred Hitchcock,
	{ James W. Stone,
	{ Charles D. Homans,
	{ Francis Minot.
<i>Worcester Co. Medical Society,</i>	J. N. Bates.
<i>Boston Soc. for Med. Improvement,</i>	J. B. S. Jackson.
<i>Massachusetts Gen. Hospital,</i>	D. H. Storer.

### RHODE ISLAND.

<i>Rhode Island Medical Society,</i>	Usher Parsons.
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### CONNECTICUT.

<i>Connecticut Medical Society,</i>	{ P. G. Rockwell,
	{ Nathan B. Ives.
<i>Med. Institution of Yale College,</i>	Charles Hooker.

### NEW YORK.

<i>Albany Medical College,</i>	Alden March.
<i>Geneva " "</i>	Joel E. Hawley.
<i>New York Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ James D. Phelps,
	{ Henry S. Downs.

<i>New York State Medical Society,</i>	{ Thomas W. Blatchford,
	{ R. D. Allen.
<i>Med. Assoc. of Southern Cent'l N.Y.</i>	{ S. H. French,
	{ Joel E. Hawley.
<i>New York Academy of Medicine,</i>	{ Lewis A. Sayre.
<i>College of Phys. and Surgeons,</i>	{ Chandler R. Gilman:
<i>New York Medical College,</i>	{ E. H. Davis.
<i>University of Buffalo,</i>	{ James P. White.
<i>Wayne Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ A. McIntyre.
<i>Herkimer Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ Caleb Budlong.

## NEW JERSEY.

<i>State Medical Society,</i>	{ L. A. Smith,
	{ F. S. Schenck,
<i>Essex District Medical Society,</i>	{ G. R. Chetwood.
<i>Camden " " "</i>	{ Richard M. Cooper.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

<i>State Medical Society,</i>	{ John L. Atlee,
	{ John D. Ross.
<i>Philadelphia Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ René La Roche.
<i>University of Pennsylvania,</i>	{ Joseph Leidy,
	{ Joseph Carson.
<i>Pennsylvania Hospital,</i>	{ George W. Norris.
<i>Medico-Chir. College,</i>	{ Samuel H. Meade.
	{ J. B. Bell.
<i>Philada. Assoc. Med. Instruction,</i>	{ Francis West.
<i>College of Physicians,</i>	{ John B. Biddle.
<i>Northern Med. Assoc., Philada.,</i>	{ N. L. Hatfield:
<i>Chester Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ Isaac Thomas.
<i>Montgomery Co. Medical Society,</i>	{ William Corson.
	{ Samuel Keneagy;
<i>Lancaster City and County Medi-</i>	{ John Ream,
<i>cal Society;</i>	{ Samuel Parker,
	{ Isaac C. Weidler;
	{ P. Cassiday,
	{ O. S. Mahon.
<i>Permanent Member,</i>	{ William Keith.

## VIRGINIA.

<i>Medical Society of Virginia,</i>	{ Adam Spittler.
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## SOUTH CAROLINA.

<i>Medical Society of South Carolina,</i>	{ J. L. Dawson,
	{ William T. Wragg,
	{ William H. Ford,
	{ J. Ford Prioleau,
<i>State Medical Association,</i>	{ Robert S. Bailey,
	{ William C. Ravenel.
<i>Medical College, South Carolina,</i>	{ Henry R. Frost,
	{ Thomas G. Prioleau.

## ALABAMA.

*State Medical Association,* S. W. Clanton,

## MISSISSIPPI.

*Jefferson Co. Med. Association,* T. J. Grafton.

## LOUISIANA.

*State Medical Society,* E. D. Fenner.

## KENTUCKY.

*Med. Dep. Transylvania Univer.,* John R. Allen.  
*University of Louisville,* Samuel D. Gross.  
*Kentucky Medical School,* R. J. Breckenridge.  
*Marine Hospital at Louisville,* { J. W. Scott,  
 { John Magoffin.  
*Permanent Member,* Walter A. Norwood.

## OHIO.

*Wayne County Medical Society,* { W. W. Taggart,  
 { J. D. Robinson.  
*Cincinnati Medical Society,* { W. T. Taliaferro,  
 { L. D. Waterman,  
 { M. B. Wright,  
 { H. B. Musgrave.  
*Medico-Chirurgical Soc. of Cin.* { Robert R. McIlvain,  
 { O. M. Langdon,  
 { J. J. Arons,  
 { William Clendenin,  
 { C. B. Hughes.  
*State Medical Association,* Amos C. Smith.  
*Miami Medical College,* { George Mendenhall,  
 { R. D. Mussey.  
*Hampden Co. Medical Society,* J. E. Nagle.  
*Montgomery Co. Medical Society,* { I. A. Coons,  
 { Joshua Clements.  
*Belmont Co. Medical Society,* J. T. Updegraff.  
*Members by invitation,* { John W. Bond,  
 { L. D. Waterman,  
 { Charles Grant.

## INDIANA.

*Evansville Medical College,* { William H. Byford,  
 { D. Morgan.  
*Vincennes Medical Society,* W. W. Hitt.  
*Permanent Member,* J. L. Mothershead.  
*Member by invitation,* Edward Murphy.

## MISSOURI.

	Charles Quarles Chandler, George Engleman, Thomas Reyburn, David C. Tandy, John Barnes, S. Pollak, L. P. Perry, H. A. Prout, David M. Cooper, Stephen W. Adreon, Alexander Marshall, J. W. Wilson, H. Schoenich, William P. Boulware, Isaac P. Vaughan, Hammond Shoemaker, John Laughton, W. A. Jenkins.
<i>State Med. Association,</i>	S. Gratz Moses, George S. Walker, A. J. Coons, Jas. R. Washington, Edwin S. Lemoine, F. E. Baumgartner, William S. Edgar, W. S. Golding.
<i>St. Louis Medical Society,</i>	William M. McPheeters, R. S. Holmes.
<i>Med. Dep. of St. Louis University,</i>	M. L. Linton, Charles A. Pope.
<i>St. Louis Hospital,</i>	John S. Moore, Joseph N. McDowell.
<i>Med. Dep. of University of Mo.,</i>	Alfred Behr, Adolphus Wislizenus.
<i>St. Louis German Med. Society,</i>	E. Y. Bannister, J. B. Johnson.
<i>St. Louis City Hospital,</i>	J. S. B. Alleyne, John O'Fallen Farrar.
<i>St. Louis Med. Institute,</i>	Charles W. Stevens.
<i>O'Fallen Dispensary,</i>	George Johnson.
<i>U. S. Marine Hospital, St. Louis,</i>	Abner Hopton.
<i>Dispensary of University of Mo.,</i>	John C. Welborn.
<i>Pike County Med. Society,</i>	R. K. Lewis.
<i>Randolph Co. Med. Society,</i>	J. W. B. Reynolds, Pierce N. Butler.
<i>Franklin Co. Med. Society,</i>	



<i>La Fayette Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ J. F. Atkinson,
<i>Chariton Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ John B. Alexander.
<i>Cooper Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ M. J. Rucker.
<i>State Deaf and Dumb Asylum,</i>	{ George C. Hart.
<i>St. Louis Co. Hospital,</i>	{ A. A. Ryley.
<i>State Prison Hospital,</i>	{ Richard F. Barritt,
<i>St. Louis Co. Lying in Hospital,</i>	{ George Penn.
<i>St. Louis Co. Insane Hospital,</i>	{ W. A. Curry.
<i>Biddle Lying in Hospital,</i>	{ J. M. M'Keage.
<i>St. Louis Quarantine Hospital,</i>	{ Joseph Buron.
<i>Permanent Members.</i>	{ Charles L. Boialiniere,
	{ M. M. Pallen.
	{ F. P. Leavenworth.
	{ A. Litton,
	{ Charles W. Hempstead,
	{ William Webb.

## MICHIGAN.

<i>State Med. Society,</i>	{ A. B. Palmer,
<i>South Western Med. Association,</i>	{ J. H. Beach.
<i>Detroit Med. Association,</i>	{ Andrew Murray.
	{ William Brodie.

## IOWA.

<i>State Med. Association,</i>	{ John D. Elbert,
<i>Med. Dep. Iowa University,</i>	{ Thomas Seviter,
<i>North Western Med. Society,</i>	{ John H. Rauch.
<i>City Hospital, Keokuk,</i>	{ D. L. M'Gugin,
<i>Clinton Med. Society,</i>	{ E. R. Ford.
<i>Keokuk Med. Society,</i>	{ John F. Ely.
<i>Permanent Member,</i>	{ E. A. Arnold.
	{ N. Van Patten.
	{ J. C. Hughes.
	{ J. F. Sanford.

## ILLINOIS.

<i>State Med. Society,</i>	{ E. S. Cooper,
	{ Samuel Thompson,
	{ Rudolphus Reuse,
	{ H. A. Johnson,
	{ William W. Welch,
	{ Samuel Long.
<i>State Med. Society,</i>	{ W. Henry Davis,
<i>Morgan Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ S. A. Paddock.
<i>Cook Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ David Prince.
	{ W. C. Quigley,
	{ James Bloodgood.

<i>Knox Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ James Bunce,
	{ J. W. Spalding.
<i>Pekin Med. Society,</i>	{ J. S. Maus,
	{ J. C. Hinsey.
<i>Rush Med. College,</i>	{ Daniel Brainerd,
	{ W. B. Herriek.
<i>Adams Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ Daniel Stahl,
	{ J. N. Ralston.
<i>McLean Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ George W. Stipp,
	{ T. P. Rogers.
<i>Macon Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ S. Y. Baldwin,
	{ S. Y. Trowbridge.
<i>Esculapian Med. Society,</i>	Thomas D. Washburn.
<i>Alexander Co. Med. Society,</i>	William Wood.
<i>Peoria Med. Society,</i>	E. L. Colburn.
<i>Hospital Sisters Mercy Chicago,</i>	N. S. Davis.
<i>La Salle Co. Med. Society,</i>	Joseph Stout.
<i>Madison Co. Med. Society,</i>	George S. Allen.
<i>Winnebago Co. Med. Society,</i>	Charles W. Clark.
<i>Stark Co. Medical Society,</i>	Hiram Nance.
<i>St. Clair Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ John B. Gray,
	{ James A. Roman.
<i>Permanent Members,</i>	{ M. Shepherd,
	{ Adam Nichols.
	W. P. Golliday,
	L. G. Thompson,
	W. C. Harrington,
<i>Members by Invitation,</i>	S. W. Kincaid,
	Joseph King,
	D. Skilling,
	H. W. Kendall,
	{ William Robinson.

## WISCONSIN.

<i>State Med. Society,</i>	{ John B. Dousman,
<i>Western Med. Association,</i>	{ John K. Bartlett.
	George D. Wilber.

## TENNESSEE.

<i>State Med. Society,</i>	{ Frank A. Ramsay,
	{ H. M. Clements,
	{ J. B. Lindsley.
<i>Montgomery Co. Med. Society,</i>	{ C. R. Dabney,
	{ J. L. C. Johnston.
<i>Memphis Med. College.</i>	{ Louis Shanks,
	{ A. P. Merrill.

<i>Med. Dep. University of Nashville,</i>	{ William K. Bowling,
	{ Paul F. Eve.
<i>Nashville Med. Society,</i>	J. B. Lindsley.
<i>State Lunatic Asylum,</i>	George R. Grant.
<i>Sumner Co. Med. Society,</i>	William D. Haggard.
<i>Permanent Member,</i>	C. B. Guthrie.

## MINNESOTA.

<i>Minnesota Med. Society,</i>	John H. Murphy.
<i>United States Army,</i>	{ Clement A. Finley,
	{ A. N. McLaren.
<i>United States Navy,</i>	Ninian Pinkney.
<i>Med. Soc. of Cherokee Nation.</i>	R. D. Ross.

The roll being called, Dr. Parsons, the vice-President announced that the Association was duly organized, and stated the business first in order.

The Secretary now read the report of the committee on Publications—the chairman, Dr. Condie, being absent.

The report, on motion of Dr. Atlee, of Pennsylvania, was laid on the table for future action.

Also, the report of Dr. Condie, as Treasurer of the Association, was read and ordered to lie on the table until audited.

On motion of Dr. White, of New York, a recess of fifteen minutes was taken, to allow the delegates of each state to meet and select one of their number to act as a nominating committee to report officers for the ensuing year.

The Association again came to order, and the following persons were announced as the committee on nominations:

<i>Maine,</i>	Dr. Charles Millet,	<i>Alabama,</i>	" S. W. Clanton,
<i>Massachusetts,</i>	" D. H. Storer,	<i>Louisiana,</i>	" E. D. Fenner,
<i>Connecticut,</i>	" P. G. Rockwell,	<i>Missouri,</i>	" Thos. G. Reyburn,
<i>New York,</i>	" L. P. White,	<i>Michigan,</i>	" William Brodie,
<i>New Jersey,</i>	" George R. Chetwood,	<i>Mississippi,</i>	" T. J. Grafton,
<i>Pennsylvania,</i>	" Rene La Roche,	<i>Iowa,</i>	" D. Sevier,
<i>Virginia,</i>	" Adam Spiller,	<i>Tennessee,</i>	" J. B. Lindsley,
<i>Minnesota,</i>	" J. H. Murphy,	<i>Wisconsin,</i>	" J. B. Dousman,
<i>S. Carolina,</i>	" Thomas G. Prioleau,	<i>Kentucky,</i>	" R. J. Breckenridge,
<i>Illinois,</i>	" W. B. Herrick,	<i>Ohio,</i>	" O. M. Langdon,
<i>Indiana,</i>	" W. W. Hitt,	<i>U. S. A. and N.</i>	" Ninian Pinkney.

The committee on nominations retired for the purpose of selecting candidates for President, vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. On motion of Dr. Atlee, of Pa. the hours of sessions of the Association were fixed at from 9 A. M. till 1 o'clock P. M., and from 3 till 6 o'clock P. M.

Dr. Hooker, of Connecticut, moved that the nominating committee be instructed to recommend the place for the next annual meeting of the Association. Approved.

Invitations were now received from the cities of Detroit and Philadelphia, warmly urging the Association to hold its next meeting in those places.

Dr. Brainerd, of Illinois, offered the following resolution.

*Resolved,* That hereafter the American Medical Association will hold its meetings alternately in the southern, northern, and western divisions of the United States. The resolution gave rise to considerable discussion, and was finally, on motion of Dr. Barnes, of St. Louis, laid on the table.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

## AFTERNOON SESSION—Tuesday, May 2.

The Association met at 3 o'clock P. M. pursuant to adjournment—one of the vice-Presidents, Dr. Henry R. Frost, of S. C., in the chair. The presiding officer then announced that the next business in order would be the reading of the usual annual address of the President, and that Dr. Parsons, of Rhode Island, the senior vice-President would, in the absence of the President, perform that duty.

Dr. Parsons then read the following address.

Gentlemen of the American Medical Association; it has been customary for the Presiding Officer of this Association, on retiring from the chair, to give a valedictory discourse. On the eve of my departure from Rhode Island, our venerable President notified me of his inability to attend and perform this part of his official duty, which deprives us of the rich entertainment anticipated from so distinguished a scholar and professor. The notice being entirely unexpected, I am unprepared to offer you anything worthy of your attention, and my inclination would therefore be to remain silent, but for an apprehension that this course might operate as a precedent to others on similar occasions, I will therefore present you rather as an apology for a discourse, a few thoughts that have suggested themselves while on my way to this city.

In order to promote the honor, dignity and usefulness of our profession, objects for which the Association was instituted, its members must be gathered from all parts of our country, and united into one harmonious fraternity, and must adopt such measures as will promote and perpetuate among ourselves an *esprit de corps*, a conformity of sentiment and feeling, and a combination and co-operation in action. This has already been accomplished in a good degree by holding our annual meetings in distant and remote cities of the Union. They must continue to be carried to new and ever varying spheres of action, until their beneficial influence is made available to the whole profession. As the metallurgist in separating a heterogeneous mass of particles passes over it a magnetic bar to attract the pure iron and steel with a force proportioned to its proximity, so must the meetings of this Association, in order to gather into one fold suitable materials of growth and strength, be carried from place to place over the whole mass of our population, attracting from the dross and impurities all that is of value and worthy of reception and incorporation into a homogeneous and efficient brotherhood. These considerations influenced me in voting to accept the invitation to hold the present meeting in Missouri, notwithstanding the toil and fatigue of the journey, and its remoteness from the residence of a large proportion of the delegates. It is here more than elsewhere, that the meetings of this Association are likely to prove beneficial by a rapid enlargement of our numbers.

Whoever glances at a map of the Mississippi Valley, extending from the base of the Alleghany and Cumberland Mountains to the margin of the Rocky Mountains; from the Highlands bordering on Lake Superior, to the Gulf of Mexico, and contemplates the fertility of its soil, its adaptation for cereal productions, which are so necessary for human subsistence and increase, and who surveys the majestic Mississippi, navigable through this whole territory, with its numerous navigable tributaries pouring in their treasures on either side, and adds to this the vast mineral resources, lead, iron, copper and coal, which are far more conducive to healthful opulence than the golden regions of California—whoever, I say, candidly surveys all these elements of future growth, expansion and power, and moved onward by the agency of steam on land and water, and labor saving mechanical manufacturing operations, can arrive at no other conclusion than that this vast territory, the largest and most favored one by nature of any under the whole canopy of Heaven, will, in time, be densely populated with scores of millions, and become the seat of empire of the western world; and that it is destined to be the grand theatre of human progress in every department that is calculated to advance the dignity and promote the happiness of the human family.

And in no department of human affairs is progress here more sure than in medical knowledge. Our Atlantic States have inherited a reverence for European opinions, which, although commendable in our early medical history, is at the present day less favorable to American progress, and discovery in medicine. We need to interrogate nature and experience more, and European opinions less. We need mental as well as political independence—the freer swing of thought and purpose that characterizes our brethren of the West, and which this Association is adapted to call into action.

There is much to encourage you in your recent discoveries and contributions, in the results of the vivisections of Saurians, the half of which, if confirmed by future ex-

periments, will shed new light on Physiology: and again, in the discoveries made relating to the process of digestion, by your late lamented Beaumont, of St. Louis, who for the theories and speculations before prevailing, has substituted ocular demonstration of the *modus operandi* of that wonderful process, by submitting to it the various articles of human aliment, and determining the length of time required for converting each into healthful chyme; and again, in the successful labors of Drake in traveling from State to State throughout the valley, collecting the history and character of its epidemics by personal inquiry and observation. Others of your venerated dead might be mentioned who have pursued a like independent course untraveled by prevailing European authorities. Of their immediate successors who now stand at the head of their profession, it would ill-become me to speak, seeing that some of them are present and unused to such freedom of remark. But to the junior members of the profession we would say, "unite with us—follow the example of the distinguished pioneers I have named, and of Caldwell and Harrison who have gone to their reward; throw the result of your labors into the common stock of medical knowledge, accumulated by this Association, where, rest assured that they will be duly appreciated to the common benefit of the profession and of mankind, and redound eventually to your everlasting honor and professional fame."

Gentlemen, eight years have elapsed since the preliminary meeting of the Convention which recommended the formation of this National Association, and the results of its labors have equalled the expectations of the friends of reform and progress in our profession. The six published volumes of Transactions have successively increased in value and interest, and are enduring monuments of the ardent zeal and patient industry of the numerous contributors, and there is every reason to hope that our future labors will continue to be crowned with equally increasing success.

Gentlemen, we are reminded by the history of the past year, of the frailty of human life. Death has removed many of the brethren of this Association. Among others its first President, Professor Chapman, of Philadelphia, a veteran teacher in our oldest Medical College—Professor Caldwell, another veteran of great distinction, as a lecturer and an author—Professor Howard, of Ohio, an eminent surgeon, editor of the Ohio Medical Journal, and who was Vice-President of this Association at the time of his decease—Dr. George C. Shattuck, LL. D., Boston, an extensive practitioner, and formerly President of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He was reputed the wealthiest physician in New England, and his numerous bequests to educational, humane, and religious institutions, and private enterprises and charities, proclaim that his philanthropy was proportioned to his opulence.

We are reminded by the return of this anniversary, of the terrible catastrophe that occurred at Norwalk. The Association had received from our brethren of New York a cordial welcome, and were honored with overflowing hospitality. After a delightful and profitable session, the Association adjourned, and many of the members were on their way in cars to their respective homes, in joyous anticipation of rejoining their families, when in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, seven of them were launched into eternity, leaving us the solemn admonition, that "in the midst of life we are in death." I should deem it a duty on this occasion, to pay a tribute of respect due to their memory, by portraying their many virtues and excellencies as men and as physicians, had I not ascertained that justice will be done them by an abler pen. Our brethren of New York, with characteristic magnanimity, which adds to their claim on our gratitude, immediately on the announcement of the disaster, summoned a meeting and passed resolutions expressive of their deep sorrow at the sad event; and they also appointed a committee to prepare an eulogy on the deceased, to be offered at this annual meeting, and the distinguished ability of the chairman and members of that committee is a sufficient guarantee that justice will be done to the memory of these, our lamented brethren.

On motion of Dr. Atlee, of Pa., the thanks of the Association were tendered Dr. Parsons for his Address, which was then referred to the Committee on Publications, and ordered to be printed with the transactions.

The following report of the New York Committee was read by the Secretary and their recommendations adopted.

#### TO THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

At a special meeting held in the city of New York, on the 12th of May, 1853, of such members of the American Medical Association as reside in this city and its

vicinity, and such as were remaining here from abroad, for the purpose of expressing their feelings respecting the disaster on the New York and New Haven Railroad at Norwalk, in Connecticut, which resulted in the death of so many valuable members of the Association," after adopting sundry resolutions expressive of their sentiments and sympathy with the bereaved, a committee of seven was appointed to devise some suitable method of commemorating the event and the worth and professional character of our lamented associates, and to recommend said plan to the next annual meeting of the Association.

At a meeting of the Committee thus appointed, it was resolved, that in the opinion of the Committee, the most appropriate method of carrying into effect the objects had in view in their appointment, would be by preparing a narrative of the event, together with a brief biographical sketch of each individual, which shall embrace a notice of the birth-place, age, place of education, when and where they derived their medical authority, where located after entering the profession, tastes and habits of life, if any, to what particular branch of the profession devoted, what positions held in the profession, either as professors, presidents or officers of Medical Societies, what literary labors, medical or otherwise, performed, what done to advance the science of medicine; and that such narrative and biographical memoirs be published in the next volume of the Transactions of the Association.

The Chairman and Secretary of the Committee beg leave to state that, although they have taken measures to procure the materials for preparing the Biographical Memoirs, answers to all the letters of inquiry have not been received. In reporting the above proceedings of the Committee to the Association, they would respectfully recommend the adoption of the plan proposed, and suggest that they be authorized to complete the narrative and memoirs in question, and to transmit them to the Committee of Publication.

To E. L. BEADLE, M. D., Secretary.  
New York, April 24, 1854.

JOSEPH M. SMITH, M. D., Chairman.

The letter from Dr. John G. Adams, dated Marseilles, March 19, 1854, was again read. On motion, the request was ordered to be complied with.

Dr. Atlee, of Pennsylvania, here made the explanation that the volumes of the Transactions had been forwarded very recently. There not being any of the first edition on hand at the time the order was received, the Committee were obliged to wait until the issue of the second edition.

The following resolutions passed at the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Medical Society were read.

At the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Medical Society, holden at Concord, June 1, 1853, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That it is the decided opinion of the New Hampshire State Medical Society, that no Delegate should be admitted to membership in the American Medical Association, who represents a Medical Society which numbers among its members any person or persons who adopt as their system of practice, any form of empiricism.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Society be instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretaries of each of the State Medical Societies, and to the Secretaries of the American Medical Association, previous to their next Annual Meeting.

E. K. WEBSTER, Secretary N. H. Medical Society.

Boscawen, June, 1853.

Dr. Gross, of Kentucky, offered the following resolution, which being seconded, was ordered according to the rules of the Association, to lie upon the table for one year before being acted upon.

*Whereas*, It is of great importance to the harmony and good feeling of this Association, that its presiding officer should be fully acquainted with parliamentary usages, and the mode of presiding over deliberative bodies; Therefore

*Resolved*, That that part of the Constitution which relates to the election of officers, be so amended, as that the election shall take place immediately before the adjournment of each meeting, instead of immediately after its commencement.

Dr. Gross offered another resolution, declaring it to be disorderly for any future Committee of arrangements to prepare a costly supper or dinner, for the entertain-



ment of the members of the Association. Dr. Gross remarked in support of the resolution, that he had the misfortune, perhaps, to live in a small city, where the profession was poor, and unable to go to any extravagant expenditure in the entertainment of the Association, in case it should ever honor his city by holding its meetings there. His resolution, he further said, was prospective in its application, and intended to make no reflection on any arrangements that had been made by the profession of this city.

A warm and spirited debate sprung up on the resolution, in which Drs. Coons, McPheeters and Barnes participated.

Dr. Coons approved of the resolution, and the objects it was intended to effect. The cause of science could not be promoted by preparing costly dinners at great expense. The Committee of arrangements in this city, have been at great expense and trouble to make preparations for the reception of the Association, and he thought such efforts and receptions did not tend greatly to forward the ends of the Association. (These remarks elicited some decided evidences of disapprobation.)

Dr. McPheeters deprecated the expediency of dragging such matters before the Association.

A motion to lay the resolution on the table was lost.

An amendment was then offered by Dr. McPheeters, striking out the word "disorderly," and substituting a clause, which modified the resolution, so as to request future Committees of arrangement not to prepare costly entertainments for the Association.

Dr. McIlvaine desired to amend further by a clause prohibiting the use of liquor and tobacco. After some further discussion, Dr. Gross' resolution, with Dr. McPheeters' amendment was carried.

The nominating Committee then entered, and through their Chairman, Dr. White, of New York, reported the following officers for the ensuing year.

*For President*—Charles A. Pope, of Missouri. *Vice-Presidents*—E. D. Fenner, of Louisiana; N. S. Davis, of Illinois; William Wragg, of South Carolina; John Green, of Massachusetts. *Secretaries*—Edwin S. Lemoine, of Missouri; Francis West, of Pennsylvania. *Treasurer*—D. Francis Condie, of Pennsylvania.

The report was accepted unanimously, and the gentlemen nominated declared to be duly elected.

Drs. D. H. Storer, of Massachusetts; White, of New York; Brainard, of Illinois, and Eve of Tennessee, were appointed a Committee to conduct the newly elected officers to their seats.

Dr. Pope being absent on account of sickness in his family, the Senior Vice-President, Dr. Fenner, presided, and expressed his thanks for the honor conferred, and regretted the absence of the President.

The Chairman then stated that owing to some informality in transmitting the resolution instructing the nominating Committee to select a place for the next annual meeting, the Committee had not acted thereon. It was then moved and adopted unanimously, that the City of Philadelphia be selected for holding the next meeting of the Association.

A series of resolutions were then reported from the committee on publication, to which an amendment was offered, providing that a fee of three dollars should be required of each member annually, to defray the expense of publishing the transactions of the Association, and that the name of any member refusing or neglecting to pay the same, should be erased from the list of permanent members. A spirited and interesting debate sprung up on the amendment.

Dr. Atlee supported the amendment, saying it was only asserting in theory, what

had always been the practice of the Association. The opposers of the amendment asserted that absence, accident, or circumstances beyond the control of a member, might prevent him from paying his due, in which case, it would be manifestly unjust to strike out his name.

Dr. McIlvaine approved of the amendment: it would make members more prompt and punctual in the payment of their dues.

During the discussion, a motion that the resolutions be acted on separately was lost. The resolutions were then further amended by providing that the Secretary, before erasing the name of a member, should inform him of his indebtedness, and in this form passed *en masse*, by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Atlee, on behalf of the Committee to procure a stone with a suitable inscription for the Washington monument, reported that he had adopted, at the suggestion of the lamented Dr. Pierson, of Salem, the design for the stone, representing Hippocrates refusing the presents of King Artaxerxes, who invited him to go to Persia and succor the enemies of Greece. The sculpture was on beautiful marble, by Samuel Beck, a young artist of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, from a daguerreotype copy of Viardot's celebrated picture, presented to him by Miss Abby L. Pierson. The execution of the work is in the highest style of the art, and evinces extraordinary talents in the artist.

The stone is of Vermont marble. The resolution authorizing the movement was adopted at Richmond. There was a lack of funds for the accomplishment of this object to the amount of \$400, and members of the Association were respectfully invited to contribute, as they felt inclined, and make up the amount.

At the conclusion of Dr. Atlee's remarks, the members gathered around him to contribute to the sum required to complete the work.

On motion of Dr. White of New York, Dr. Charles Hooker of Connecticut, was appointed Treasurer, *pro tem.*, Dr. Condie being absent.

Dr. N. S. Davis, of Illinois, moved the following resolutions, which were adopted.

*Resolved*, That all motions and resolutions made to the Association shall be presented in writing and signed by their mover.

*Resolved*, That no member be allowed to speak more than fifteen minutes at one time, nor more than once on the same subject, until all have spoken who wish to do so.

A gentleman now announced that Dr. Pope, the President elect, was in the room. Two of the Committee appointed for that purpose then escorted the President to the chair. He addressed the Association in a few words as follows:—

GENTLEMEN—There are occasions when the mouth is dumb, because the heart is full. I am unequal to the task of thanks. Honor, which is valuable according to its source, is in the present case great indeed, for I behold around me the members of a noble profession, the cultivators of a yet nobler science, gathered from the wide extent of our beloved country.

I would that this undeserved and unexpected honor had fallen upon one older and worthier than I, for many such I see before me. In one thing only will I claim equality, for however unworthy in other respects, I yield to none in ardent devotion and ceaseless love to our time honored art. But I will not claim more than I ought. Nor do I misconstrue the honor which your partiality has conferred upon me: for well I feel that it was intended less as an individual compliment, than as one to the West in general, and to Missouri especially. In this view, and for them, and for myself, I return you the warm, unfeigned thanks of a grateful heart. Relying upon your partiality, which has thus elevated me to my present position, and claiming indulgence for any shortcomings in presiding over your deliberations, I shall endeavor to acquit myself to the best of my poor ability. Again, Gentlemen, I thank you.

Dr. Storer of Boston, now informed the Association that Dr. Ninian Pinckney one of the Delegates from the United States Navy was present, and would be glad if permission were granted him to address the meeting.

The request was acceded to, and Dr. Pinckney addressed the Association as follows.

Having been deputed by the present distinguished head of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (the successor of the venerable Harris, whose name stands deservedly high as an ornament of the profession which his great talent and extensive acquirements have so long and happily illustrated, and whose place has been supplied by a gentleman of the very first qualification for the office), it is my privilege to congratulate my brethren here assembled in the heart of the great and magnificent West, and mingle in their deliberations—deliberations that have for their object the elevation and efficiency of the medical profession of the United States. There seems to be a peculiar fitness in the place of our assembly. St. Louis is a name too dear to every American citizen to require any eulogy at my hands. The beauty of her location, her commanding influence as the great commercial emporium of the West, her future boundless career of usefulness and honor, carried out in a measure by the talent and enterprise of her citizens—all concur to make her a most appropriate place for the convening of such a body as I see before me. I may therefore offer you my congratulations upon the time and the place, satisfied that whatever tends to exalt science and dignify and ennoble the condition of man, will meet no where a more cordial sympathy or enlightened public sentiment.

In the discharge of my appropriate duty, it will be necessary to remind you that your kind sympathy and earnest co-operation with your brethren of the Navy have already produced the most admirable and desirable results. Twice have the Senate of the United States passed a law conferring rank upon our corps perfectly congenial with our feelings and commensurate with our just rights. You are aware that a bill for the re-organization of the Navy is now before Congress. The Hon. Secretary of the Navy, in a spirit that reflects infinite credit upon his sense of justice, and displays his broad and enlightened appreciation of public policy, and with a view of harmonizing the several branches of service, appointed the Chief of the Medical Bureau and a Commander to represent the line and staff officers of the Navy. Their report, satisfactory to both parties, received the cordial approbation of the Secretary, and was by him sent to the chairman of the committee on Naval Affairs in the House. The report was accepted by the committee and is now incorporated into the bill for re-organization. Your report, adopted at your last session in New York, and the recommendation of your own distinguished committee, laid before the Republic of our great and growing confederacy, have been chiefly instrumental in securing this measure of relief to your brethren of the Navy. I, as their representative, tender you my own and their thanks for your manly and efficient action in the premises. We will not doubt that Congress, in responding to your wishes, now clothed with the efficient sanction of the Secretary of the Navy, founded upon the joint report of the two representatives of the line and staff officers, will be prompt to measure out to us the relief we need, and engraft upon the legislative proceedings a principle which must commend itself to every calm and unprejudiced friend of the Navy.

I may have been deemed importunate by some in pursuing with so much earnestness my appeal to your sympathy; but I have studied the elements of the medical profession and the feelings of the American people to but little purpose, if importunity be not deemed a virtue when official honor and dignity are the objects of pursuit.

I have now discharged the specific duty assigned me as the representation of the Medical officers, of the Navy in a matter personal to themselves, yet of high concernment to you all. Our honor is your honor; our dignity your dignity; our rights your rights. This noble sentiment you have unfurled to the gaze of the world, and we are here to thank you for it. You will allow me to say in return, that your honor is our honor, your dignity our dignity, your rights our rights. We shared with you the sincerity and concern that attended your first celebration, when many were desponding and not a few inert and inactive. We had a strong hope that the advancement of the science and the exaltation of our profession would be thereby promoted. We knew that in union there was strength, and that concert of action would be productive of a rich golden harvest, and the sight that this day greets my eye, and the experience of the past, conclusively proves that in this hope we were not doomed to be disappointed.

Gentlemen, you stand upon a lofty eminence—linked by all the ties of brotherhood. Assembled to work, not for the vain and idle purposes of a fleeting hour, but for future ages, you must command the respect and admiration of the world. Personal gratification, personal emolument, personal feeling and private convenience, are all cheerfully sacrificed for the common good.

In this peaceful though earnest conflict of mind with mind, this blending of calm deliberation with the suggestions of thought, which are accustomed to explore all the height and depth of scientific investigation, there must be imparted an increased stimulus to exertion, and a happy exemption from that low and vulgar jealousy which has done more to lower the profession of medicine than aught else beside.

I bid you all hail in this onward and upward career, I come to cheer on your deliberations and participate in your self-sacrificing efforts to raise the standard of medical proficiency; to witness the triumph of talent and argument—not to add anything of my own; and I shall carry back to my brethren of the Navy, the cheering intelligence that union characterized all your proceedings, and efficiency all your actions. You will excuse me it, in my visions of future recollection and honor, I recall, for the expression of our mutual sympathy and condolence, the familiar forms of those who took a prominent part in the doings of our last Association, and parted from us with high hopes and exulting pride; but who, alas! were crushed by the hand of death ere they reached their homes, or were greeted by the smiles of their admiring friends. The calamity that put an end to their bright career, fell with stunning suddenness upon the heart of the whole country. All felt that bright lights were extinguished in the social and professional circle, and all sympathized with us, who best knew the extent of the sad bereavement. Let us build a monument to their memory. They fell in the prosecution of what they, in the noble spirit of chivalry which encircled them, considered a paramount duty. Let it never be said that, while we are yearly occupied in erecting a monument of enduring renown to the profession at large, we are so engrossed with the thrilling and moving scenes of active life, as to forget what is due to death, to such a death, encountered in such a cause. While we write upon the tablet of memory those simple words, "*requiescat in pace*," let us engrave upon the solid marble our sense of the magnitude of our loss; and show to the world that the living stars of the profession know what is due to the illustrious lights that have gone out—gone out, did I say? not so; they can never go out, for the rays of their glory still linger among us to cheer us on in our future career.

A communication was read from L. M. Kennett, Ex-Mayor of St Louis, inviting all the members of the Association to his residence that evening.

Also one from Rev. William G. Elliot, President of the Missouri Institution for the Blind, requesting the members to visit at their convenience before leaving the city, that establishment.

On motion of Dr. Atlee, of Pennsylvania, the Committee on Nominations was instructed to report to the Association all the Standing Committees.

The President invited the members to the residence of Drs. Moore, McPheeters and Reyburn.

On motion the Convention adjourned.

### May 3—MORNING SESSION.

The Association met at 9 o'clock, and after the reading of the minutes, which were slightly altered, they were adopted. The hour of adjournment on motion, was fixed for this evening, at 4 o'clock.

Dr. Atlee of Pennsylvania, moved that the memorial to the Association from the American Medical Society of Paris be read, which was carried, and the Secretary read as follows.

To the American Medical Association:

We, the Members of the American Medical Society of Paris, beg, through our delegates, to present the following memorial:

The National Association of the United States, has had its origin mainly from the consciousness of physicians of the low state of medical education in our country, and from the desire universally entertained by them, of elevating the standard of medical education and attainment of the medical profession.

We, by our sojourn abroad, from an intercourse with those educated here, have become more painfully conscious of our infirmities and deficiencies at home, and for this reason beg once more, to urge upon the Association the necessity of a change. While acknowledging, however, the superiority of education in Europe, we are far from de-

siring to arrive at equality by imitating their methods. We therefore beg to urge the following plans for the consideration of the Association:

That in each State there be appointed by the Medical Society of the State, a Board of Examiners, which board shall be chosen every year from members of the Society, and which shall perform its duties the following year, in the place and immediately before the sitting of the Society; that their examinations be public, and that any one whosoever may apply who shall be introduced by a member of the Society, and that no one can hereafter become a member of the State Medical Societies, nor of the American Medical Association, who has not the certificates of having satisfactorily passed such examination.

As to the qualifications to be required of the candidates, we do not think it advisable to enter into particulars. They should not, however, believe in any peculiar doctrines or methods—no certificates of attendance upon courses of lectures should be necessary, but solely the possession of the necessary amount of medical knowledge to practice their profession with safety and honor.

This plan in no way interferes, with the established schools, its effect upon them could only be salutary. Students would attend those institutions where those branches of a medical education that can only be acquired by attendance upon lectures, are best taught.

All of which is respectfully submitted to the consideration of the Association.

Paris, March 21st, 1854.

DR. HAMMER, St. Louis, }  
DR. MURPHY, Cincinnati, }

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Publication.

The President now announced that the next business in order was the receiving of the reports of Standing Committees.

Several Committees were continued on account of the absence of the Chairman, viz: Drs. Condie, of Pennsylvania, Arnold of Georgia, Hooker of Connecticut, Jones of Louisiana, Wood of New York, Porcher of South Carolina, Wilson of Virginia, Lee of New York, Engleman of Missouri, Bullitt of Kentucky, Campbell of Georgia, Bolton of Virginia, Taylor of Michigan.

Dr. R. S. Holmes, of Missouri read a synopsis of his report on Epidemic Erysipelas. The report was referred to the Committee on Publications.

Dr. Wood of Philadelphia, through Dr. Carson asked to be excused from serving on the committee which was granted.

Dr. John L. Atlee was not quite prepared to report and was granted further time.

An abstract of the report of Dr. D. J. Cain of S. C. was read by Dr. Wragg, who stated that the report needed some slight alterations to complete it. On motion it was referred, when completed, to the Committee on publications.

Dr. F. A. Ramsey of Tennessee, presented a partial report of Dr. W. L. Sutton of Kentucky, on Epidemics of Tennessee and Kentucky for the last year. The report was referred to the Committee on Publications and Dr. Sutton continued on the Com.

Dr. Reyburn of Missouri asked for further time. Granted. Dr. George Mendenhall of Ohio gave a synopsis of his report on Epidemics of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Referred to the Committee on Publications.

Dr. Fenner of Louisiana, stated that owing to his not receiving information of his appointment until recently, he had not been able to finish his report. He then presented to the Association his history of Yellow Fever in New Orleans during the year 1853, and also read an abstract of his unfinished report upon Cholera. Dr. Fenner was requested to finish his report and transmit it to the Publishing Committee.

Dr. Mussey here moved that these reports of the Standing Committees be suspended to allow Dr. M. L. Linton of Missouri to present certain views which he entertained in regard to the pathology and causes of Yellow Fever. The request was granted, and Dr. Linton then endeavored by an able argument to prove the identity in cause and nature of Yellow, Bilious, and other so-called miasmatic fevers.

Dr. Blatchford of New York, moved that Dr. Linton be requested to draw up a paper expressive of his views, and present it to the Publishing Committee. Carried.

Dr. Brainerd requested further time to make up a full report upon the constitutional and local treatment of Carcinoma.

Dr. N. S. Davis, of Illinois, on the influence of local circumstances on the origin and prevalence of Typhoid Fever, read a brief abstract of his report. Referred to Committee on Publications.

Dr. F. Donaldson of Maryland not being present, a communication was read from him, stating that he had completed his report upon "The present and prospective value of the Microscope in Disease," and asking that it be referred to the Committee on Publications. Granted.

The report of Dr. R. L. Howard, of Columbus, Ohio, upon the pathology and treatment of Scrofula was called for, when his death was announced by a colleague.

A letter was read by the Secretary from Dr. Cabell of Virginia, who had been substituted as chairman on the Committee on Education, instead of Dr. B. R. Wellford, stating that his report was ready, but owing to his recent appointment he had not been able to obtain the aid or views of his colleagues, and therefore the report presented was expressive of his opinions only. At his request it was referred to the Publishing Committee.

Dr. Wragg, of S. C., one of the Vice Presidents, took the chair, and Dr. Pope as chairman of Committee on volunteer communications made a report as follows.

MR. PRESIDENT: The Committee on Prize Essays and Volunteer Communications, respectfully report that the Essays submitted to their consideration were nine in number, of which one was presented as a volunteer communication. The committee have carefully examined the whole of these Essays and bestowed upon them the attention which a sense of the importance of the duty assigned them imposed. They feel free to say that some of these Essays possess undoubted merit, both in matter and style, and they admit in them evidence of high scientific attainment, as well as a familiarity with the graces of composition. But whilst cheerfully acceding these claims to their authors, the committee have preferred to be governed in their choice by considerations of originality and practical import, rather than of mere theoretic speculation, however finely portrayed. The committee, have, consequently, concluded to award but a single prize. The Essay selected is entitled "An Essay on a new method of treating *ununited Fractures* and certain Deformities of the Osseous System." It bears a motto in French, which being liberally rendered in modern English, reads, "and notwithstanding all the pains I have heretofore taken, I have reason to praise God, in that it hath pleased Him to call me to that branch of medical practice commonly called Surgery, which can neither be bought by gold nor by silver, but by industry alone and by long experience."

If it please the Association I will now break the seal of the packet superscribed by the same motto, and declare the name of the successful competitor.

Dr. Pope then broke the seal of the packet endorsed by the same motto, and announced the name of Dr. Brainerd, of Chicago, Illinois. The announcement was greeted with applause, and on motion Dr. Brainerd was invited to the stand to explain his new mode of treating ununited fractures.

Dr. Hooker, Treasurer, *pro tem*, called the attention of the Association to the resolution adopted yesterday, in reference to the annual assessment—the prompt payment of which he urged, and recommended the appointment of Committees in each State to attend to the sale and distribution of the Transactions of the Association. He also gave notice that he was prepared to receive payment for Vol. 6th of the Transactions.

Dr. Elbert, of Iowa, offered the following resolutions.

Resolved, That a committee of — members be appointed to recommend to the next annual meeting, any amendments, necessary in their opinion, to the Constitution or By Laws of the Association.



*Resolved*, That this meeting instruct said Committee to report a Constitution and By-Laws which shall require the election of officers, and the place of holding the annual meetings to be determined by ballot, and without the intervention of nominating committees.

These resolutions gave rise to considerable discussion and were finally lost.

On motion of Dr. C. B. Guthrie of Kentucky, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That in the Secretary of the Treasury's recommendation to Congress to abolish, or materially modify the duty on such crude drugs not producible in this country, as are used in the laboratories of the country in the manufacture of chemicals, we recognize a wise provision for the further protection of the profession, and the community at large from impure and sophisticated medicines.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be signed by the proper officers of this Association and transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, and to the Committee of Ways and Means in Congress.

Dr. J. B. Johnson, of St. Louis, Mo., now read the following letter:

To the American Medical Association assembled at St. Louis:

Mr. President—At the last meeting of the Association in New York, I presented the following preamble and resolution through my friend Dr. Stewart, of New York, which, with some amendments, were laid on the table.

As we are constantly called upon to deplore the ravages of death among the meritorious and worthy members of our profession throughout the United States.

*Resolved*, That a Standing Committee be appointed by this Association to procure memorials of the eminent and worthy dead among the distinguished physicians of our country, and present them to this Association for publication in their transactions.

I now beg leave to call up the resolutions through my friend Dr. J. B. Johnson, of St. Louis. The medical biography of our country is intimately related to the history of it, as the lives of eminent men are identified with the history of the times in which they lived. In the United States there have been and are to be found, medical men whose lives and actions are ornaments to human nature, and whose brilliant career in the cause of humanity and science, reflect honor and dignity upon our country. We suffer nothing in this respect, in comparison with the learned and eminent physicians of Europe. The profession of medicine contains more learned and distinguished men than any other profession or calling, and some memorial of their lives and actions should be presented to the world in a more durable form than the periodical journals of the day, and particularly of the newspaper press. A more permanent and proper place for the publication of such memorials would be in the Transactions of the American Medical Association. And without disparagement to any other articles which have heretofore been published in the Transactions, such memorials would be read by the surviving members of the profession with great interest and improvement—short biographies need take up but little room in the publication—and this objection to the proposed movement may be thus obviated.

We are constantly noticing that death spares no ranks or conditions of men. Those who contend most skillfully against his insatiate ravages, themselves fall victims to his all conquering sword. Within a very short space of time, we have been called to lament the deaths of Dr. Nathaniel Chapman, the former President of this Association; of Drs. Samuel G. Morton, William E. Horner, Isaac Parrish, G. S. Pattison, J. Kearney Rodgers, Daniel Drake, the great Medical Pioneer of the West; Samuel McClellan, Amos Twitchell, Abiel Pierson, G. C. Shattuck, Archibald Welch, and very many others which time will not permit me to enumerate.

This is not the place to speak their eulogies; some permanent notice of them and of many others who have recently died, should be published in the Transactions of this Association, where the useful improvements and discoveries of the living should be recorded, and the memories of the worthy dead should be presented.

STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS, late of Deerfield, Mass.

Lavina, Winnebago co., Ill.

The resolutions, on motion of Dr. Johnson were adopted.

Dr. McIlvaine, of Ohio, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that in the opinion of this Association the practice of professors reading lectures to their classes, no matter with how much care selected from the musty records of antiquity, is a miserable apology for teaching—is *prima facie* evidence of their inaptness to instruct, and is inimical to medical progress. Laid on the table.

Dr. Nagle, of Ohio, proposed that the words "Surgical instrument," be erased from chapter 2d Art. 4th of the code of ethics. The motion was lost.

Dr. F. A. Ramsay offered the following amendment to the Constitution which by the laws lies over to the next meeting.

*Resolved*, That the Constitution of this Association be so amended as to dispense with the nominating Committee, and the duties of such Committee.

Dr. S. H. French, of New York, submitted the following, which was carried.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to enquire what state or other society represented in this Association, are in fellowship with irregular practitioners.

A communication was presented by Dr. Blatchford, of New York, from Dr. Spore, of the same state, on the subject of hydrophobia and its connection with the season. As Dr. Spore was not a member of the Association, Dr. Blatchford was on motion, appointed Chairman of a Committee on hydrophobia.

Dr. Joseph N. McDowell submitted the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to investigate the improvements in instruments for lithotomy, by Nathan K. Smith, Paul F. Eve, and Dr. McDowell.

The resolution after some discussion was laid on the table.

Dr. Ramsay, of Tennessee, made the following motion, which was adopted.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed who shall be charged with the duty of investigating the charges made against gentlemen in fellowship with this Association, of sustaining proprietary medicines by certificates or otherwise.

Dr. S. M. Smith, of Columbus, Ohio, offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That a Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed by this Association on the subject of Insanity, as it prevails in this country, including its causation as hereditary transmission, educational influences, physical and moral, social and political institutions, &c. Its forms and complications, curability and means of cure and prevention, &c. Carried.

An invitation was now received from Col. John O'Fallen, for all the members of the Association to an entertainment at his country seat, at 5 o'clock this evening.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION—May 3.

At 3 o'clock Dr. Wragg, one of the Vice-Presidents, called the Convention to order, and stated that the President would not be present during the afternoon.

Dr. White, of New York, offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Association be presented to Dr. J. Knight, the late President, for the very dignified, courteous, and efficient manner in which he presided over its deliberations, and that he be requested to furnish the usual address for publication.

The thanks of the Convention were also voted to the late Vice-Presidents, Drs. Parsons, Frost, &c., and the late Secretary, Dr. Beadle.

The Secretary then read a report from Dr. George J. Zeigler, of Philadelphia, from the special Committee, authorized at the last meeting to report on a plan for a more general, systematic, and thorough investigation of subjects connected with medical science, concluding with the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That the American Medical Association hereby recommends all medical societies to establish in accordance with the plan detailed in the report, special Committees for the selection, investigation, collaboration, and publication, of all subjects of interest connected with medical science.

On motion, the report with the resolution accompanying it, was referred to the Committee on Publications, with directions to publish them in the Transactions.

Dr. Atlee stated that he had just received a letter from Dr. Parrish, Chairman of the

Committee on the Epidemics of New Jersey, informing him that his report was not yet finished, and asking leave to send it to the Publishing Committee, when finished, for publication. Granted.

Dr. Davis, of Illinois, presented to the meeting some specimens of milk, prepared in New York, so as to make a voyage of any distance without losing any of its nutritive qualities. This milk he stated, would if used, prevent many of the diseases of children to which they are subjected by the use of impure milk.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock on Thursday morning.

#### MORNING SESSION—May 4.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment, at 9 o'clock; Dr. Pope in the Chair.

Dr. Sevier, of Iowa, one of the nominating Committee, having left the city, the order of business was suspended in order to allow another to be substituted. On motion, Dr. McGugin was appointed. The minutes of yesterday were then read, corrected, and adopted.

Dr. McPheters, of St. Louis, stated to the Association that arrangements had been made with all the different Railroad Companies of the country, excepting the New York and Hudson River Railroad Company, to convey the Delegates who exhibited through tickets to St. Louis, a passage back free of charge.

The Chairman of the nominating Committee requested the members of said Committee to meet in an adjoining room.

A communication was read tendering the hospitality of the city of Burlington, Iowa, to those members returning by the upper Mississippi.

Dr. Atlee moved that a copy of the Constitution of the Association be hereafter appended to each volume of the Transactions. Adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. Gross, of Kentucky, was adopted, and Dr. Gross appointed on the Committee.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of one be appointed by the Chair, to inquire into the causes which obstruct the formation and establishment of our National Medical Literature, and to report on the subject at our next regular meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

The following letter was read by the President—

DR. WASHINGTON, Chairman of Committee of Arrangements:

DEAR SIR—I am authorized by the Directors of the Pacific Railroad, to offer to your Committee the use of the road, at your convenience, in case you should desire to show to the members of the Medical Society that are expected to meet here, the country in the neighborhood of St. Louis, and go a few miles out on what we hope will in time be, the road to the Pacific Ocean.

If you will give me one day's notice, I will send out a special train, at such an hour as may suit your arrangements. Very respectfully,

THOMAS S. O'SULLIVAN, Eng. and Supt.

On motion of Dr. Atlee, a vote of thanks was extended to the Directors of the Pacific Railroad—the invitation accepted, and the time fixed at 10 o'clock, A. M. on Friday.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. J. B. Linsley, of Tennessee, after some debate was referred to the Committee on Medical Education, with instructions to report thereon at the next annual meeting.

*Resolved*, That this Association earnestly recommend to the few western schools which still retain the rule of making four years practice equivalent to one term at College, the abrogation of said rule, as holding out strong inducement and temptation to young men, to enter upon the practice of medicine with little or no preparation.

Dr. Paul F. Eve, of Tennessee, submitted a resolution, which, after a slight amendment, was adopted as follows—

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair, to report at the next annual meeting, the best means of preventing the introduction of disease by emigrants, into our country. Drs. S. H. Dickson, J. H. Griacom, and E. D. Fenner, Committee.

Dr. Linton of St. Louis, offered this resolution, which was referred to the above Committee.

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Association, quarantine establishments afford, no protection to states and cities against the invasion of epidemics, such as cholera and yellow fever.

Another motion of Dr. Linton's, to take the sense of the Convention upon the utility of quarantine, was laid on the table.

Dr. Sayre, of New York, made a motion to withdraw from the Committee on Medical Education, the memorial from the American Medical Society at Paris. Dr. Sayre warmly supported the object of the resolution. A spirited discussion arose, in which Dr. Atlee, of Pennsylvania, Dr. Edgar, of St. Louis, Dr. Elbert, of Iowa, Dr. McIlvaine, of Ohio, and Dr. Paddock, of Illinois, participated.

The memorial was finally, by a large majority, withdrawn from the Committee, and laid on the table.

A communication was received from Dr. Peebles, of Petersburg, Va., asking to be excused from serving on the Committee on Epidemics of Virginia and North Carolina. Granted.

Dr. Phelps, of New York City, asked and obtained leave to read an abstract of a paper upon the relation between medicine and religion.

The nominating Committee at this juncture appearing, the regular order of business was suspended, to allow their report.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

The Committee of nominations, in fulfilling the duty imposed upon them, recommend the continuance of several of the Special Committees previously created, and the appointment of some new ones. They therefore, submit the following list of Chairmen of Special Committees, with the subjects to them committed:

Dr. Worthington Hooker, of New Haven, Conn.—On epidemics of New England and New York.

Dr. John L. Atlee, of Lancaster, Penn.—On epidemics of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

Dr. D. J. Cain, of Charleston, S. C.—On epidemics of South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Alabama.

Dr. W. L. Sutton, of Georgetown, Ky.—On epidemics of Tennessee and Kentucky.

Dr. Thomas Reyburn, of St. Louis, Mo.—On epidemics of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

Dr. George Mendenhall, of Cincinnati, Ohio.—On epidemics of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Dr. E. D. Fenner, of New Orleans, La.—On epidemics of Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas.

Dr. James Jones, of New Orleans, La.—On the Mutual Relations of Yellow and Billous remittent Fevers.

Dr. D. F. Condie, of Phila.—On the Causes of Tuberculous Disease.

Dr. Joseph Leidy, of Phila.—On Diseases of Parasitic Origin.

Dr. A. P. Merrill, of Memphis, Tenn.—On Physiological Peculiarities of Diseases of Negroes.

Dr. Joseph N. McDowell, of St. Louis, Mo.—On Statistics of the Operation of removing Stone in the Bladder.

Dr. F. Peyre Porcher, of Charleston, S. C.—On the Toxicological and Medicinal Properties of cryptogamic plants.

Dr. Daniel Brainard, of Chicago, Ill.—On the Constitutional and Local Treatment of Carcinoma.

Dr. George Engleman, of St. Louis, Mo.—On the Influence of Geological Formation on the Character of Disease.

- Dr. Henry Taylor, of Mt. Clemens, Michigan.—On Dysentery.
- Dr. Horace Green, of New York.—On the use and Effects of Applications of Nitrate of Silver to the throat, either in local or general Disease.
- Dr. P. Claiborne Gooch, of Richmond, Va.—On the Administration of Anæsthetic Agents during Parturition.
- Dr. Charles Hooker, of New Haven, Conn.—On the Diet of the Sick.
- Dr. E. R. Dabney, of Clarksville, Tenn.—On certain forms of eruptive fevers prevalent in Middle Tennessee.
- Dr. Sanford B. Hunt, of Buffalo, N. Y.—On the hygrometrical state of the atmosphere in various localities, and their influence on health.
- Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, of Buffalo, N. Y.—On the frequency of deformities in fractures.
- Dr. M. M. Pallen, of St. Louis, Mo.—On puerperal convulsions.
- Dr. G. S. Walker, of St. Louis, Mo.—On diseases of the prostate gland.
- Dr. H. A. Johnson, of Chicago, Ill.—On the excretions as an index to the organic changes going on in the system.
- Dr. Leroy H. Anderson, of Sumterville, Ala.—On Typhoid Fever and its Complications, as it prevails in Alabama.
- Dr. W. H. Byford, of Evansville, Ia.—On the Pathology and treatment of Scrofula.
- Dr. N. S. Davis, of Chicago, Illinois.—On the Nutritive Qualities of Milk, and the influence produced thereby by pregnancy and menstruation in the human female, and pregnancy in the cow; and also on the question whether there is not some mode by which the nutritive constituents of milk can be preserved in their purity and sweetness, and furnished to the inhabitants of cities in such quantities as to supercede the present defective and often unwholesome methods of supply.
- Dr. E. B. Haskins, of Clarksville, Tenn.—On Microscopical Investigations of Malignant Tumors.
- Dr. George R. Grant, of Memphis, Tenn.—On the Sulphate of Quinia as a remedial agent in the treatment of fevers.
- Dr. R. R. McIlvaine, of Cincinnati, Ohio.—On the Study of Pathology at the bed-side.
- Dr. F. S. Cooper, of Peoria, Illinois.—On Orthopedic Surgery.
- Dr. Andrew F. Jeeter, of Palmyra, Mo.—On the *modus operandi* of the Envenomed Secretion of Healthy Animals.
- Dr. Samuel M. Smith, of Columbus, Ohio.—On Insanity.
- Dr. Rene LaRoche, of Philadelphia.—On the Jaundice, Yellow Fever in its diagnostic and prognostical relations.
- Dr. Charles Charles Chandler, of Rochestert, Mo.—On Malignant Periodic Fevers.
- Dr. S. B. Chase, of Portland, Maine.—On Typhoid Fever in Maine.
- Committee on Plans of Organization for State and County Societies.*—A. B. Palmer, M. D., Michigan; R. B. McIlvaine, M. D., Ohio; D. L. McGugin, M. D., Iowa; E. R. Peasley, M. D., New Hampshire; Thomas Lipscomb, M. D., Tennessee.
- Committee on Medical Literature.* Robert J. Breckenridge, M. D., Kentucky; O. M. Langdon, M. D., Ohio; A. A. Gould, M. D., Massachusetts; D. L. McGugin, M. D., Iowa; J. B. Flint, M. D., Kentucky.
- Committee on Medical Education.*—Wm. A. Anderson, M. D., Alabama; A. Lopez, M. D., Alabama; Andrew Murray, M. D., Michigan; F. A. Ramsey, M. D., Tennessee; R. D. Ross, M. D., Cherokee Nation.
- Committee on Prize Essays.*—R. La Roche, M. D., Pennsylvania; Isaac Hays M. D., Pennsylvania; Alfred Stille, M. D., Pennsylvania; J. B. Biddle, M. D., Pennsylvania; George W. Norris, M. D., Pennsylvania; Joseph Carson, M. D., Pennsylvania; Joseph Leidy, M. D., Pennsylvania.
- Committee of Arrangements.*—Isaac Hays, M. D., Pennsylvania; G. Emerson, M. D., Pennsylvania; Wilson Jewel, M. D., Pennsylvania; Alfred Stille, M. D., Pennsylvania; J. B. Biddle, M. D., Pennsylvania; Francis West, M. D., Pennsylvania; William V. Keating, M. D., Pennsylvania.
- Committee on Publication.*—Pliny Earle, M. D., New York; D. Francis Condie, M. D., Pennsylvania; E. S. Lemoine, M. D., Missouri; Francis West, M. D., Pennsylvania; Alden March, M. D., New York; E. H. Davis, M. D., New York; C. R. Gilman, M. D., New York.

Dr. Reyburn, of St. Louis, moved that the report be adopted, with the exception of that portion which refers to the Committee of Publication. He remarked, in support of the resolution, that he saw no reason why the publication of the proceedings of the

Association should be changed from Philadelphia to New York, as was evidently intended by placing the Philadelphia portion of the Committee in the minority. He did not think the business would be any better done in New York, and as long as the old Committee performed their duty well, he did not see the necessity of the change.

A lengthy and warm debate arose upon the resolution of Dr. Reyburn. Drs. Sayre, of New York; Eve, of Tennessee; Paddock, of Illinois; Herrick, of Illinois; McPeters, of St. Louis, and Davis, of Chicago, opposed the resolution, and Drs. Stores, of Boston, Reyburn, of Mo., and Atlee, of Pennsylvania, supported the resolution.

On motion of Dr. Sayre, the Association resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, for the purpose of considering said report of the Standing Committee.

Dr. Elbert, of Iowa, was made chairman, and the discussion was renewed with greater ardor.

On rising, the Committee of the whole, through the chairman, reported in favor of Dr. Reyburn's resolution, and on motion of Dr. Atlee, the recommendation of the Committee of the whole was adopted.

The Association adjourned to meet at three o'clock.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION—May 4.

The Convention met at 3 o'clock. Dr. N. S. Davis, one of the Vice-Presidents in the chair.

Dr. Atlee, of Pennsylvania, moved, that this Association earnestly recommend to their medical brethren, in the states in which Societies do not exist, the immediate organization of State and County Societies. Adopted.

The following resolution of Dr. Ramsay, of Tennessee, was, on motion of Dr. Coon, of St. Louis, laid on the table.

*Resolved*, That while this Association reserves to itself the right of expressing through reports of Committees, or by resolutions, its appreciation of professional qualifications, or of medical education; it is far from assuming the position of guardian of Medical Schools.

Dr. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, read a resolution of Dr. Lindsley, of Tennessee which being amended by Dr. Smith, of Columbus, Ohio, was adopted as follows:

*Resolved*, That hereafter, every paper received by this Association and ordered to be published, and all plates, or other means of illustration, shall be considered the exclusive property of this Association, and shall be published and sold for the exclusive benefit of the Association.

Dr. Byford, of Indiana, offered a resolution to change the names of Committees on Epidemics, so as to read "Committees on prevailing diseases." Ordered to lie over to the next meeting. Dr. Gross, of Kentucky, obtained leave to inform the Convention that the second volume of the late Prof. Drake was in press at Philadelphia, and would be issued the present summer.

The second volume is on Practical Medicine, and is entirely independent of the first.

Dr. Phelps of New York, now claimed the privilege which had been granted in the morning session to read the following abstract of a paper.

"The document I hold in my hand purports to be an abstract of a paper which traces the connexion existing between medicine and religion in its origin and progress, and might receive the following style, to wit:

"Religion an Element in Medicine, or the duties and obligations of the profession." It naturally divides itself into parts; the former is mainly pictorial, the latter suggestive and practical. The general scope and bearing of the subject may be embraced under the following heads, viz:

The substance and general outline may be stated in the following propositions:  
1. A recognition of the complex nature of man, his immortality, free-agency, natural religious propensities, and susceptibility of indefinite intellectual improvement.



2. That medicine, or the art of healing, as an art, must have been of very ancient origin, probably coeval with, or shortly subsequent to, the Fall of Man; but, as a science, of much later date.

3. That the earliest authentic record of medicine and the profession, and the collateral art of the apothecary, is to be found in the Bible, and localized in Egypt, the great depository of learning and art in that early age.

4. That among the Israelites under the Theocracy, and down to the time of the Apostles, medicine and the profession, were more or less identified with, or under the direction of, patriarchs, prophets, priests and evangelists, or other prominent and good men.

5. That the Greeks, though idolaters, were nevertheless deeply imbued with a sense of the claims and sacred obligations of their religious rights, and that Hippocrates and his disciples, as evidenced in the celebrated oath bearing his name, avouched the highest religious sanctions in entering upon the responsible duties of the profession of medicine.

6. That through the long night of the dark ages, the convulsions, the vice and downfall of nations, science, medicine, and religion feel the shock—languish and struggle for an uncertain existence, but are not destroyed; and with the dawning of the reformation and the consequent revival of learning, and the spirit of free inquiry, the arts, science and medicine as well as religion, receiving new impulses extend their domains, freedom of thought develops, new elements of improvement, and the commonwealth of letters measurably disenthralled, gives lustre and momentum to knowledge, and high promise of success to succeeding generations.

7. The art of printing—the discovery of a new continent—of the circulation of the blood, and the publishing to the world the great principles of the Newtonian philosophy, together with the more general diffusion of the doctrines of the Reformation, gave new and increased energy and extension to thought, science, medicine, and the arts of civilized life, during the period included between the last half of the fifteenth and near the close of the seventeenth century.

8. That still another and brighter era dawns upon the world in the last half of the eighteenth century, in ascertaining the identity of the electric fluid and lightning—the discovery of galvanism, of carbonic acid gas, oxygen gas, and the consequent development of the broad field of pneumatic chemistry, and pari passu with these, the increased diffusion of Christian principles and benevolence as exhibited in the Bible, and other kindred Societies—hospitals, almshouses, asylums, and other numerous charitable institutions—very much of the efficiency of which depends upon the science, the time, the sacrifice and exposure of the medical profession.

9. That the scientific, and other general developments of the last fifty years have been rapid above all human conception; every department and enterprise feels the mighty impulse, nor an ocean or continent escapes the scrutiny of the age. The long standing problem proposed by Columbus, of a Northwest passage is solved. Air, steam, and electricity yield subserviency to the will of man and execute his pleasure. Time and space are measurably annihilated. Remote parts of the country are brought into neighborhood. Intercommunication, hitherto so difficult between distant nations, is facilitated; the benign principles of the Gospel wend their way; and hence the indication of the early universal diffusion of light and knowledge, and the final mental emancipation of our race.

10. That in elaborating the world's destiny Religion is the great and all pervading element, and that even now it exerts a controlling or modifying influence, commanding the homage and respect, either directly or indirectly, of all classes and professions.

11. That this influence is felt and receives the sanction and acknowledgment not only of the profession, as evidenced in our code of ethics, but specially also as witnessed in lectures, professors and presidents in their addresses, and other official acts in our colleges and schools of medicine.

12. That this moral influence as a necessary sequence in professional intercourse with the people and with each other, is exerted on man, complex in his nature, consisting of soul and body, and these reciprocal in their action and influence, and contingent in results here and hereafter, more or less upon professional intervention in the treatment of disease.

13. That hence we deduce inferentially, the solemn and responsible professional relation existing between the physician and his patients, and that in consonance both with the requirements of our code of ethics and the judgment of those high and honored in the profession, it is obligatory on the practitioner in grave disease, seasonably

to take the initiatory demanded either for business arrangements, or leading to that consolation which religion can afford:

14. That the prudent and discreet im-ulation of the truths of the Gospel and the method of man's redemption by a mediator, instead of exerting an injurious effect upon bodily disease have often quite a contrary tendency, arresting the attention of the patient—leading to a different train of thought, and thus sensibly relieving anguish of mind and pain of body—begetting trust, confidence and joy, and often ending in fatal cases in a peaceful and triumphant death.

15. That from the general scope of the subject, the compound nature of man, his eternity, accountability, religious propensities, intellectual susceptibility and the reciprocal action of body and mind in health and disease, the doctrine is educed of the paramount duty of the profession to their patients not only as regards the body in disease, but also the higher interests of the immortal spirit. And hence, also the just claim of Religion, the great anæsthetic of the immortal mind, to be considered an element in medicine or the healing art.

The foregoing propositions are enforced by such considerations and reflections as are suggested in support of the general subject.

JAMES L. PHELPS,  
City of New York.

A motion to lay on the table was lost.

Dr. Atlee then moved that it be referred to a special committee. Adopted, and the chair appointed Drs. Atlee, Sayre, and March of Albany.

On motion of Dr. Smith of New Jersey, the regular order of business was resumed.

Dr. Eve moved that the matter relating to the report of the Committee on Nominations, and the blank occasioned by the amendment of Dr. Reyburn, which was adopted in the Committee of the Whole, be referred back to the Nominating Committee for the purpose of filling up the blank. Lost.

The question then recurred to the original report of the Committee. Several amendments were offered and lost.

A warm and animated discussion grew out of this question, which was participated in by Drs Breckenridge, Atlee, Storer, Sayre, McDowell, of St. Louis, White of Buffalo, and several others, which resulted in the adoption of the original report of the Committee on Nominations.

On motion of Dr. White, of New York, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That a vote of thanks be returned to the late Publishing Committee for their best endeavors to serve the Association.

The following communication was then read—

The delegates from Philadelphia feel themselves authorized to resign, in the name of Dr. Condie of Philadelphia, the office of Treasurer of the Association.

(Signed) RENE LA ROCHE, on behalf of the Philadelphia delegation

The resignation of Dr. Condie was accepted, and on motion Dr. Charles Hooker of Connecticut, was elected Treasurer.

Dr. Hooker declined, and his resignation was accepted.

Dr. F. West of Philadelphia, tendered his resignation as Secretary. It was refused.

A resolution was unanimously adopted, tendering the thanks of the Association to Dr. Condie for the able and thorough manner in which he had performed the arduous duties as Treasurer.

On motion of Dr. Breckenridge of Kentucky, it was

*Resolved*, That hereafter, the majority of the Committee on Publications shall be selected from among the Physicians of that city in which the Association may annually meet.

A motion to amend the Constitution, providing that the Association meet on the second instead of the first Tuesday of May, was laid on the table for one year.

A resolution of thanks was unanimously tendered Dr. Ninian Pinckney, for the able address delivered by him before the Association.

Dr. J. K. Bartlett of Wisconsin, moved, and it was unanimously adopted that the

thanks of the Association be tendered the Committee of Arrangements, the Physicians of St. Louis, and the citizens for their kind hospitalities, which they have extended to its members during their session in this city.

The thanks of the Association were also voted to the several Steamboat and Railroad Companies that had so generously offered a free passage to members returning from the Convention.

Dr. W. W. Hitt of Indiana, offered the following—

*Resolved*, That a Committee of — members be appointed to examine into and report upon the effects of Alcoholic Liquors upon the human system in health and disease.

Adopted and referred to the Nominating Committee.

Dr. Blatchford was nominated as Treasurer, by Dr. White in behalf of the Nominating Committee. Dr. Blatchford declined serving, and subsequently the Committee reported the name of Dr. Isaac Wood of New York. They also reported the name of Dr. William D. Haskins of Richmond Virginia, as chairman of the Committee on Epidemics of Virginia and North Carolina, instead of Dr. Peebles resigned.

The resolution of Dr. Hitt in reference to alcoholic drinks was reported back by the Nominating Committee, referring it to a special Committee consisting of Dr. Mussey.

A letter from Dr. Englemann of St. Louis was read requesting to be discharged from the committee on the influence of Geological formation on the character of disease. His request was not granted.

Dr. J. B. Lindsley offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That the too prevalent practice of Professors in Medical Colleges recommending their own writings and editings as text books for their students, is in the opinion of the Association a serious evil tramelling as it does, the student in his choice of books, and promoting the publication and circulation of works of inferior merit.

On motion it was laid on the table.

A vote of thanks was returned to Dr. Hooker, Treasurer, *pro tem*.

On motion the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The President, Dr. Pope, wished the members all a safe return to their families and friends, and expressed the earnest desire that they would all meet again at Philadelphia, next year. He then declared the Association adjourned.